

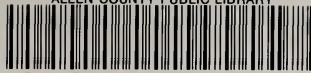
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OF THE

Connecticut Historical Society

VOLUME XXV



HARTFORD
PUBLISHED BY THE SOCIETY

1948



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JOHN COTTON SMITH
PAPERS

Papers of John Cotton Smith while Lieutenant
Governor, Acting Governor and Governor
of the State of Connecticut

VOLUME I

OCTOBER 25, 1811 — JULY 19, 1813

HARTFORD
THE CONNECTICUT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

1948

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INTRODUCTION

John Cotton Smith was born in Sharon February 12, 1765. After graduation from Yale College in 1783, he studied law and was admitted to the bar in 1786. He held many political offices and in 1809 became a superior court judge. In 1811 he was elected Lieutenant Governor and upon the death of Roger Griswold in 1812, became Acting Governor. The next year he was elected Governor which office he held through 1817. Retiring from public life, he spent his declining years in Sharon. He was much interested in the formation of this Society and until his death in 1845, was instrumental in adding to the Society's library.

The John Cotton Smith Papers in the Library were presented by Miss Helen Evertson Smith, granddaughter of Governor Smith. The gift was made in August 1896, March 1897 and April 1898. The papers were mounted and bound in 12 volumes in 1903. They cover a period from 1783 until 1845 and are particularly rich in official letters and documents during the period of his holding office as Lieutenant Governor, Acting Governor and Governor.

The Collections of The Connecticut Historical Society contain the papers of many early Governors. The renewal in 1944 of the Public Act appropriating \$1,000 annually to the Society for the publication of historical materials, makes possible the continuation of this series. The Smith papers, 1811-1817, have been selected and this is the first volume of the new series. Succeeding volumes will appear as rapidly as funds become available. James Brewster, State Librarian, Professors George M. Dutcher, Leonard W. Labaree and the late

Charles M. Andrews, were instrumental in reviving the State grant which previously had been discontinued as an economy measure. President Edgar F. Waterman also worked diligently to persuade State officials to restore this act. For their efforts, we are greatly indebted.

To Miss Marjorie Ellis, our capable stenographer, goes credit for faithfully transcribing the papers. Mr. Henry A. Castle, Chairman of the Library Committee, worked many long days assisting in proof reading and indexing. Without this assistance, the volume would not have been possible.

THOMPSON R. HARLOW

GENERAL ORDERS TO MILITIA

[1:135]

CONNECTICUT MILITIA

General Orders

The Captain General has seen with regret that the resignation & dismissal of militia officers, has become extremely frequent, & altho he does not doubt that the General Officers to whom has been confided the power of giving discharges, have exercised a sound discretion, yet he deems the evil so great, that he cannot refrain requesting that no officer may be discharged, unless the necessity is clearly apparent; & that discharges may be confined as far as is practicable to the following cases —

1st To cases where an officer has been superseded.

2^{dly} Where an officer has become permanently unable to execute his duty from sickness.

3^{dly} Where an officer has removed out of the State, or to so great a distance from his regiment, as to render it extremely difficult to appear with his company.

The Captain General also requests the General Officers to observe, that Sergeants, are not in future to be dismissed in consequence of being superceded.

NEW HAVEN October 25th 1811

ROGER GRISWOULD

By Order Eben: Huntington Adj^t General

His Honor Lieu^t Governor SMITH

[Superscribed] His Honor Lieutenant General JOHN SMITH
Sharon

Eben: Huntington Adj^t General Norwich Nov^r 5 Paid 10

[Endorsed] Adj^t Gen^l Huntington Covering Gen^l orders
Oct. 25, 1811

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO EBENEZER HUNTINGTON
[1:136]

SHARON 5. Dec^r 1811.

Sir

I have received your letter of the 18. ult^o addressed to me by order of his Excellency the Capt. General. Although I feel myself honoured by the communication, and lose no time in complying with his request, Still I should have been much more gratified instead of expressing a previous opinion, to have yielded my implicit assent to whatever regulations his Excellency might have thought proper to make upon a Subject, in which the exercise of his own Superiour taste and judgment could not be otherwise than acceptable to the publick.

To the questions distinctly proposed I answer,

1. There ought, in my opinion, to be no "difference in the form of the hat, length of coat, or in colour or length of plume between officers and Soldiers doing duty on foot." Epaulettes & the appropriate arms will constitute a sufficient distinction.
2. I think *gaiters* are to be preferred to boots or bottees. I see no objection however to allowing officers on foot to wear bottees.
3. *Lace*, epaulettes excepted, is in my judgment neither useful nor ornamental, and therefore should not be permitted.
4. Badges to distinguish the different grades of general & field officers & their respective staff were, if I mistake not, prescribed by a general order issued by the late Governour Trumbull. I see no necessity for varying that regulation.

The only effectual inducement with the great body of the militia to appear in complete uniform is an exemption from poll-taxes. Military pride or patriotism or both may do something, but if the expenditure shall be found to greatly exceed

the probable amount of the capitation, the latter rather than the former will be incurred. With this consideration in view there is little scope for fancy in devising the uniform. It ought perhaps to deviate as little as possible from such articles of dress as might be properly worn upon ordinary occasions. This remark is more particularly applicable to the Infantry who compose the great mass of militia. Corps formed by enlistment may with propriety be subjected to more costly habiliments; but even here there ought not to be so great a diversity as to destroy that general resemblance which in my opinion should pervade the whole. Under these impressions, as my "ideas in detail" are requested, I suggest with diffidence the following particulars.

Uniform for Infantry —

Blue coat red facings & white buttons — white vest — blue pantaloons — black gaiters — black leather stock — round hat with white plume or feather topped with red. Officers epaulettes white —

Light Infantry —

The Same, with the difference of *Short* instead of long coat — and a *cap with a white crest* instead of hat & plume —

Cavalry —

Blue Jacket red trimmings & yellow buttons — red vest — blue pantaloons with red welts or seams swelled with red — black boots — black leather stock — Helmet as usual, with decorations conformable to the dress — Epaulettes yellow —

Artillery —

Blue coats red facings & trimmings & yellow buttons — red vest — Blue pantaloons — black gaiters — *Chapeau* with black plume topped with red — black leather stocks — off. epaulettes yellow —

I perceive no occasion for altering the dress or decorations of the Gen^l & Field officers with their staff — excepting that I should recommend black stocks to be universally worn —

With sentiments of respect & esteem I am D^r Sir .
your ob^t & very humble ser^t
J. C. SMITH

Maj^r Gen^l HUNTINGTON Adjutant Gen^l of Con. Militia —
[Endorsed] Copy of letter to the Adjutant General — De
Uniforms

STEPHEN CHESTER TO JOHN COTTON SMITH
[1:137]

WETHERSFIELD May 9th 1812

His Honour

The Lieutenant Governor

Sir

I have this moment rec^d a letter from the Governor informing me that his health will not probably allow of his being at Hartford on the day before the Election and directing that your Honour be escorted into Hartford on Wednesday next. And that I may be sure of meeting your Honour have sent by express to learn at what place and hour you will make it convenient to dine on Wednesday and am your Honours Most Obed^t

Hum^b Serv^t

STEPHEN CHESTER

[Superscribed] His Honour JOHN C. SMITH Sharon

[Endorsed] Sheriff Chester 9. May 1812

JOSHUA P. BURNHAM TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[1:138]

HARTFORD 9th May 1812.

His Hon^r

The Lieu^t Gov^r

S^r

I am Instructed by His Excell^y the Gov^r to pay Proper respect to your Hon^r by his Excell^ys Horse Guards, I have the Hon^r to request your Orders as to the place, & time it is your Pleasure to meet the Escort the day before the Election — your orders per the Bearer M^r John E. Hart will much Oblige

Your Hon^{rs} Obt^t S^t

JOSHUA P BURNHAM, Commd^t
Gov^{rs} Horse Guards

[Superscribed] His Honour JOHN C SMITH Sharon M^r Hart

[Endorsed] Maj^r Burnham of Horse Guards 9 May 1812

LETTER TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

ABOUT JOHN C. BUSH

[1:139]

In the case of John C Bush.

The said Bush was enrolled in the 1st Comp^y 2^d Regiment of Militia has never done duty in said Comp^y but has paid fines in s^d Comp^y enrolled himself in the 2^d Comp^y of Gov^{ernors} Horse Guards on or about the 15th May last, has paid his fines in the 2^d Comp^y of Horse Guards, the Comp^y of Horse Guards claim him on the order of the late Capⁿ General which order was given in pursuance of the Law passed in Oct^r 1811 & is as follows (viz) to Elihu Monson Major Commandant of the 2^d Comp^y of Horse Guards

You are hereby Authorised at any time between this & the 15th of October next to recruit your Company from any

Battallion Infantry Company of Militia in this State, agreeably to the provisions of the act of Assembly on that subject passed at the session of Assembly in Oc^{tr} last Signed

ROGER GRISWOLD

dated Lyme 9th may 1812

The 1st Comp^y 2^d Regiment of Militia, claim him under the 11th Article of the Militia Law of this State, which article is silent as respects the Governors Guards. on the foregoing facts his Honor the Lieutenant Governor is requested to decide Submitted by

ELIHU MONSON Major Commandant of
2^d Comp^y of Gov^{rs} Horse Guards

ZEHUB BRADLEY Capt 1st Company
2^d Reg^t Militia

P S It is agreed that said Bush has not equipped himself agreeable to the rules of said Comp^y of Guards

E MONSON

Z. BRADLEY

[Superscribed] His Honor JOHN C SMITH Sharon

[Endorsed] The case of J. C. Bush — Statement by the parties —

[1:140]

This is to certify that at a meeting of the 2nd Company of Governors Foot Guards holden at the County-House on the 11th day of May 1812 James Perkins, Samuel Bradley, Roger Sperry, Enoch Carrington, Stephen Peck Ju^r, Mark Sperry and Thaddeus Sperry; were by their request admitted as privates into said company agreeable to the rules and regulations of the same

Test W SHERMAN Ju^r Clerk
of 2nd Com^y Gov^{rs} Foot Guards

[1:141]

New Haven June 22, 1812. This certifies that Serino E. Dwight has this day been legally enrolled as a private in the second company of Gov Horse Guards

R. I. INGERSOLL Clerk

PAPERS OF JOHN COTTON SMITH

[Endorsed] Certificate of S. E. Dwight's enrollment in the horse Guards. Heard the parties to the appeal at Hartford 2. July 1813 & ordered Capt. Punderson to remit the fines.

J. C. SMITH
Capt. Genl.

ROGER GRISWOLD TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[1:142]

LYME 12th May 1812.

Dr Sir

Although my health has much improved since writing you on the 5th inst^t, yet I find it still imprudent to attempt meeting the Assembly at Hartford on the day of Election.

I am therefore under the necessity of forwarding to you such publick papers, as are in my hands & which may be important to the Legislature in their deliberations. Should you deem it important to communicate any of them, directly to the Assembly you will of course make such a selection as you may think proper. Otherwise I will thank you to deposit them, for publick use in the office of the Secretary.

The Laws of several States and several printed documents which have been received since the last session, I have forwarded directly to the Secretary.

With the highest esteem & respect

I have the honour to be your obed^t
and very humble Servant
[ROGER GRISWOLD] *

HIS HONOUR

L^t Gov. SMITH

P. S. Be so good as to open such letters as may be directed to me at Hartford — if they are of a publick nature, they will be acted on immediately — otherwise they may be transmitted to me.

[Superscribed] His Honour JOHN C SMITH Hartford

[Endorsed] His Excellency Gov^r. Griswold

*The signature has been cut out.

EBENEZER HUNTINGTON TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[1:143]

NORWICH June 22, 1812

His Honor John Cotton Smith

Sir —

His Excellency the Captain General is desirous that you should express your opinion whether it is expedient to have any alteration in the Uniform as recommended by him in March last for the Militia of this State. If any alterations, you are requested to point the same out, and particularly to give your opinion whether it would be better to direct a red welting for pantaloons, a round hat ornamented with a spread eagle, and the number of the Company and regiment, for the non-commissioned officers and privates; and also whether the Cavalry should wear long Boots.

The foregoing is in consequence of an application from the 1st Division requesting an alteration in the Uniform as directed by General Orders in March last, and his Excellency is not willing to make any alterations without consulting the General Officers.

Your Humble Servant,

EBEN^r HUNTINGTON Major Gen^l & Adjutant Gen^l

By his Aid de Camp

THOMAS M. HUNTINGTON

[Superscribed] His Honor JOHN COTTON SMITH Sharon. Military Returns Eben: Huntington Adjutant General

By his Aid de Camp Thomas M. Huntington.

[Endorsed] Letter from the Adju^t General 22. June 1812

MATTHEW GRISWOLD TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[1:144]

LYME 27th June 1812

His Honor Gov^r Smith

Sir

His Excellency the Governor, being gone a Journey to Ballstown, & elsewhere, in pursuit of Health — requested

PAPERS OF JOHN COTTON SMITH

me (in his Absence) to forward you, such Letters as required immediate official Answers — I have therefore inclosed, two Letters, one from Gov^r Strong, & one from Gen^l Dearbourn

I am Sir with sentiments
of the highest respect & esteem
your ob^t Serv^t

MATTHEW GRISWOLD

[Superscribed] His Honour Lieu^t Governor SMITH Sharon
Con Lyme 27th June 25

[Endorsed] Letter from Hon^{bl} M. Griswold 27. June 1812

MATTHEW GRISWOLD TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[1:145]

LYME 7th July 1812.

His Honour Gov^r Smith.

Sir.

I have this morning received a letter from General Dearborn, which I now transmit to you enclosed.

I have the honour to be,
Sir, your obedient and
very humble servant

MATTHEW GRISWOLD

[Superscribed] His Honour JOHN C SMITH Sharon Conn^t Lyme
9th July 12½

[Endorsed] Hon. M^w Griswold 7. July 1812 Covering Genl Dearborn's letter of the 3rd July.

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO EBENEZER HUNTINGTON

[1:146]

SHARON 17. July 1812

Sir

By adverting to my letter of the 11th Dec^r last on the subject of uniform for the Militia, you will perceive that in

many respects the opinion there given corresponds with the alterations suggested in yours of the 22nd ultimo.

My idea then was and still is, that in regard to the great mass of Militia there should be as little deviation from the articles of dress proper to be worn on ordinary occasions as would consist with the principal object in view; but that *corps* formed by enlistment might reasonably be subjected to more costly apparel, and this I presume was a governing principle with His Excellency the Captain General.

Accordingly I recommended "a round hat" for the Infantry, adding 'a white feather with a red top'. There can be no objection to substituting for the feather "a spread Eagle &c" excepting that the other is more simple as well as distinguishing, less expensive, more easily obtained and will probably be more generally acceptable. For L^t Infantry the colours might be reversed — red with a white top — "Red welting" to pantaloons for the Cavalry and Artillery was also a part of my proposition. This distinction may well be extended to the Light Infantry, but for the reason already mentioned, I seriously think ought not to be required of the battalion-companies. "Black boots" (not bootees) for the Cavalry" likewise constituted a part of my former recommendation; I now accord perfectly with the proposed alteration in that particular.

Nothing farther occurs to me upon this subject than merely to observe that necessary avocations have hitherto delayed an answer to your letter, which was duly received.

When I parted with His Excellency the Governour at Hartford he was in the act of issuing orders to Major General Hubbard and Major General Williams to hold a certain portion of the Militia under their command in readiness to repel any invasion which might be attempted upon our Maritime frontier; and His Excellency requested me, in the despatches I was to transmit to the Secretary of War, to assure him such orders had issued. Not knowing how long the Governour may find it necessary to be absent from the state, and presuming the orders must have passed through your hands, I will thank you to inform me whether they have been executed.

It was also mentioned by His Excellency and some of the

gentlemen of the council that possibly it would be expedient for me, during the absence of the Governour, to visit New London and other parts of the sea-board, for the purpose of making such arrangements as their exposed condition might render necessary, as well as to evince to our fellow-citizens in that quarter a proper attention to their situation on the part of the state-government.

This service I will most cheerfully perform if respectable gentlemen in that vicinity deem it necessary or advisable. As I shall rely very much upon your opinion, you will oblige me by an unreserved communication of it as speedily as your convenience will allow. Should however His Excellency return before the receipt of this letter, you will of course be saved the trouble of a reply.

I am Dear Sir with respect and
Sincere esteem your obedient &
very humble servant
J. C. SMITH

Major General E. HUNTINGTON.

[Superscribed] Major General EBENEZER HUNTINGTON Adjutant General of the State of Connecticut Norwich.
Sharon July 18th 12½

[Endorsed] His Honor Gov Smith de Uniform 17 July 1812

EBENEZER HUNTINGTON TO JOHN COTTON SMITH¹
[1:147]

NORWICH 22^d July 1812

Sir

By this day's mail I am honored with your favor of the 17th on the subject of the Uniform for the militia, & respecting the orders of his excellency the Cap^t Gen^l to Gen^l Hubbard & Williams.

As it respects orders to Major Gen^{ls} Hubbard & Williams I am unable to give any information — no orders having been issued through me — but from the inspections which have

¹This copy is written on a sheet which is addressed to Ebenezer Huntington of Norwich and was undoubtedly written by him.

taken place in this vicinity, I have no doubt, but the troops are in readiness to carry in to effect, any orders which his Exc^y the Cap^t Gen^l may issue.

I hope I may be allowed to express *my wish*, that you may deem it expedient to visit *this* part of the state, & gratify your friends with the proof of the Watchful & Parental care of the State government over the people on the seaboard, but after expressing the above wish, I feel myself in duty bound to say, that I have heard no apprehension expressed of any landing of troops, nor can I believe, that any apprehension of invasion exists in the minds of the N London gentlemen — Whenever any anxiety shall prevail at N L they will undoubtedly remove to this, or some other secure^r place, the specie from their vaults, which as yet they consider secure — I extremely regret the indisposition of his Exc^y at this particular critical period, but I presume *his* anxiety will be much diminished, knowing on whom *his* duties fall during his sickness — & was not my confidence great, that the vastly unpleasant state of our country, is one cause of his illness I should place great confidence in the good effect of his journey, but, his correct knowledge of the administration, & his ever active mind keeps him in a constant worry, & I fear will prevent any good effect from either the journey or the use of the waters

I am &c

Lieu^t Gov^r SMITH

[Endorsed] Copy to Gov Smith 22^d July 1812

LIST OF OFFICERS OF VOLUNTEER COMPANIES

1:148

A return of officers elected by the volunteer Companies which have been formed under the act of Assembly dated August 1812

Names of towns forming Volunteers	Approved by Governors	Date of orders directing choice	Name of persons to whom directed	Time on which the choice was made	The name of officers elected & to what grade
Brooklyn	1812 Sept ^r 10	1812 Sept ^r 10	Col ^o Tho ^o Grovesner	1812 Sept ^r 22	Dan ^l Putnam Cap ^t Jo ^o Scarborough Lieu ^t Benj ^a Pierce Ensign

PAPERS OF JOHN COTTON SMITH

Watertown	Sept ^r 24		Col ^o Garrit Smith	Oct ^r 2 ^d	Aner Bradley Cap ^t Eleazer Judd Lieu ^t Tho ^s Cole Ensign
Pomfret	Sept ^r 28	Sept ^r 28	Major Dan ^l Putnam	Oct ^r 1	Tho ^s Grovesner Cap ^t Lem ^l Ingalls Lieu ^t Tho ^s Allen Ensign
Woodstock	Oct ^r 2 ^d	Oct ^r 2 ^d	Col ^o T. Grovesner	Oct ^r 8	Chester Childs Cap ^t Moses Arnold Lieu ^t Jn ^o Davis Ensign
Litchfield	Oct ^r 8	Oct ^r 8	Col ^o B. Beebee	Oct ^r 22 ^d	Uriel Holmes Cap ^t Fred ^k Wolcott Lieu ^t Asa Bacon J ^r Ens ⁿ
Harwington		Nov ^r 18	Lieu ^t Jo ^s Cook	Nov ^r 27	Elijah Gaylord Cap ^t Dan ^l S. Wilson Lieu ^t Wm C. Abernethy Ens ⁿ
Killingly	Oct ^r 12	Oct ^r 12	Gen ^l J. Gordon	Nov ^r 23 ^d	Ja ^s Danielson Cap ^t Hubbard Torry Lieu ^t Shubael Hutchins En ⁿ
Sharon	Oct ^r 15	Oct ^r 15	Major David Gould	27 Nov ^r	Tho ^s S ^t John Cap ^t Dan ^l S ^t John Lieu ^t Calvin Peck Ensign
Malborough	Oct ^r 15	Oct ^r 15	Cap ^t J. Isham	Nov ^r 10	Elisha Buel Cap ^t Joel Foot Lieu ^t Jos. Carrier Ensign
Bethlem	Oct ^r 15	Oct ^r 15	Cap ^t J. Morris	Nov ^r 4	Nehem ^h Lambert Cap ^t Nathan Hawley Lieu ^t Sam ^l Bliss Ensign
Vernon	Oct ^r 15	Oct ^r 15	Col ^o Jesse Root	5 Nov ^r	Lebbius P. Tinker Cap ^t Phineas Talcott Lieu ^t Cornelius Roberts Ens ⁿ
N. Hartford	Oct ^r 15	Oct ^r 15	Gen ^l Thompson		William Cook Cap ^t Thomas Lee Lieu ^t Chauncey Seymour Ens ⁿ
Warren	Oct ^r 15	Oct ^r 15	Col ^o Wm Cogswell		Nath ^l Swift Cap ^t Eben ^r Tanner Lieu ^t Homer Sacket Ens ⁿ

COLLECTIONS OF THE CONNECTICUT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Norfolk	Oct ^r 15	Oct ^r 15	Gen ^l J. Sedgwick	Nov ^r 10	Eleazur Holt Cap ^t Augustus Pettibone Lieu ^t Benj ^a Welch Ens ^a
E. Windsor	Oct ^r 22	Oct ^r 22	Major Terry	Nov ^r 18	Roswell Grant Cap ^t Aaron Bissell Lieu ^t Sam ^l Hall Ens ^a
E. Windsor	Oct ^r 22	Oct ^r 22	Major Terry	Nov ^r 18	Cha ^a Jenks Cap ^t Joel Holkins Lieu ^t W. Thompson
Litchfield S. Farms	Oct ^r 23	Oct ^r 23	Col ^o B. Beebe	Nov ^r 5	Ja ^a Morris Cap ^t R. N. Whittlesey L ^t Nath ^l Goodwin Ens ^a
Derby Humphreys- ville	Nov ^r 19	Nov ^r 19	Col ^o Ira Smith	Nov ^r 5	David Humphreys Cap ^t Dan ^l Holbrook Lieu ^t Joseph Riggs Ens ^a
Cornwall	Nov ^r 12	Nov ^r 12	Gen ^l S. Sedgwick	Nov ^r 25	Benj ^a Gould Cap ^t Oliver Burnham Lieu ^t Reuben Fox Ens ^a
Middlebury	Nov ^r 19	Nov ^r 19	Col ^o Aner Bradley	Dec ^r 21	Tim ^o Higgins Cap ^t Dan ^l Smith Lieu ^t Jn ^o Bradley Ens ^a
Canton	Nov ^r 28	Dec ^r 1	Col ^o A. Austin		Geo. Humphrey Cap ^t Jo ^a Dyer Lieu ^t Darius Moses Ens ^a
Hartford West Division	Nov ^r 30	Dec ^r 1	Gen ^l M. Tryon	Dec ^r 11	Moses Goodman Cap ^t Elisha Mix Lieu ^t Jedidiah Mills Ens ^a
Hartford	Nov ^r 30	Dec ^r 1	Major N. Terry	Dec ^r 8	Andw Kingsbury Cap ^t Henry Terry Lieu ^t Geo. Goodwin Ens ^a
Hartford Cavalry	D ^o	D ^o	D ^o	Dec ^r 8	Jn ^o Caldwell Cap ^t Michael Olcott Lieu ^t Jn ^o Bennett Ens ^a
Ellington	Dec ^r 1	Dec ^r 2	Gen ^l C. Jenks	Dec ^r 12	Levi Wells Cap ^t Asa Willey Lieu ^t Jo ^a Abbott J ^r Ens ^a

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Plainfield	March 11	March 18	Col ^o D. Putnam	Ap ^l	Abel Andrus Cap ^t Eben Eaton Lieu ^t Jeremiah Kinsman Ens ^a
Washington N. Preston Soc.	1813 13 Jan ^y	1813 13 Jan ^y	Col ^o W. Cogswell		Silas Tracy Cap ^t Elijah Meeker Lieu ^t Barra Abbott Ens ^a
Torrington	1812 28 Dec ^r	1812 28 Dec ^r	Col ^o T. Griswold	1813 1 Jan ^y	Willm Battel Cap ^t Elisha Hinsdale Lieu ^t Seth Coe Ens ^a
East Haddam	1813 14 Jan ^y		Hon ^{le} H. Champion		Eliph ^t Holmes Cap ^t Jeremiah Smith Lieu ^t Josiah Griffin Ens ^a
Coventry	Dec ^r 30		Hon ^{le} Jesse Root		Elisha Edgerton Cap ^t Joseph Talcott Lieu ^t Bildad Curtiss Ens ^a
Windsor	1812 2 Dec ^r	same	Gen ^l Jenks	1812 24 Dec ^r	Oliver Mather Cap ^t Job Allen Lieu ^t Martin Denslow Ens ^a
Farmington	29 Dec ^r	30 th	Gen ^l Cowles	1813 11 Jan ^y	Isaac Cowles Cap ^t Daniel Tillotson Lieu ^t Sam ^l Bishop Ens ^a
Washington first Soci ^y	10 Feb ^y	same	Col ^o Cogswell		D. N. Brinsmade Cap ^t Elijah Hazen Lieu ^t Anthony Strong Ens ^a
Enfield	Dec ^r 29		Col ^o Nath ^l Terry		Asaph Terry Cap ^t Joseph Parsons Lieu ^t Caleb Jones Ens ^a

JOSHUA BARNES JUNIOR TO ROGER GRISWOLD

[1:149]

NORTH HAVEN August 3rd 1812

Honoured Sir I have taken the Liberty to write you In a
matter Which I want your Desition. On the 9th of May Last

I Enlisted into the 2nd Company of horse Guards under the Comand of Mag^{or} Munson & receivd a Certificate from him that I had that Day Enlisted into his Company. The next Monday after being the Day oppointed by my former Officers to Drauft out of the Company the Coto of Men required by the President. The Certificate that I received from Cap^t Munson I Presented to Cap^t Beach My former Captain Early on Monday Morning on the Day that the Company met for the Drauft, He took the Certificate & Red it & said he Did not Blame me for Enlisting He said he must put my name in the Box to Run my Chance for the Drauft he said he thought it Likely that he shoud have to make out a new Draft Provided I shoud be Drafted I was accordingly Drafted with 2 others that had Enlisted one of them when I Did & the other some time Before There is not much said about it only Cap^t Beach does not know but what he can hold us & Cap^t Munson tells me that Cap^t Beach Can not hold me he Likewise red me a Letter that he receivd from you about that time Certifying that he had a Right to fill up his Company any where with in the Limits of this state if I remember right & that he Coud & shoud hold me in his Company I have requested Capt Munson to Write you on the subject But he seams to be so Positive that he Can hold me he thinks it unnesery to write I have therefore taken the Liberty to Write to your Excelancy on the subject & have endeavoured to Inform you as correct as I am Capible I am Compleat Equiped for the guard & have turnd out with them once Last May Any other Information Capt Monson may be able to give

As soon as you may be able to Decide on the subject & write to me you will much oblidge & relieve an anctious Mind of a Sincear friend, your obedient servant

JOSHUA BARNES JUN

A true American & a friend to the government of this State.

[Superscribed] ROGER GRISWOLD Esquire Lyme Connecticut

[Endorsed] Joshua Barnes 3^d August 1812. (Military)

WILLIAM JONES TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[1:150]

PROVIDENCE Aug^t 4th 1812

Sir

On the 22^o day July last I did myself the honor to address a line to you in answer to a communication received from His Excellency R Griswold Esq^r who we were then informed was no more, but have since the happiness to find the report incorrect

Sometime having elapsed and a fear it might not have reached you as such things are, I now do myself the honor to inform you that the answer was written & put into our Post office by myself

With esteem & respect

I have the honor to be

Your Obedient Servant

W^m JONES

Honble JOHN C. SMITH

[Superscribed] Hon^e JOHN C SMITH Esq, Sharon, Con Windham Ct 11 August 10

[Endorsed] His Excellency Gov^r Jones 4. Aug. Ans^d 22nd indorsed thereon

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO WILLIAM WILLIAMS

[1:151]

SHARON 11. Aug. 1812

Sir,

Capt. Jewett represents to me that a considerable portion of his company are desirous of being allowed to return home for a short period to attend to their private affairs at this busy season. Would it not be adviseable to grant furloughs to such as appear to have a strong claim to that indulgence? This subject is left to your sound discretion upon the view you are enabled to take of the State of the Service and the appearance of danger.

There is so much delay, expense and inconvenience in

frequent dismissions of whole corps and replacing them with fresh troops that I am unwilling to take that course but upon the most urgent necessity. Liberality in granting temporary indulgences to individuals it is hoped will remove all reasonable grounds of uneasiness

I am Sir respectfully your
very Ob^t ser^t
J. C. S.

MAJOR GEN^l WILLIAMS.

[Endorsed] To Gen^l W. Williams per Capt. Jewett
[Copy]

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO GOV. WILLIAM JONES
[1:150¹]

SHARON 22. Aug. 1812

Sir

I had the honour to receive your excellency's letter of the 22nd July last in due course of the mail, and as it was of an official nature, delivered it to His Excellency Governour Griswold who returned to the State about the same time. By your favour of the 4th instant just come to hand I perceive the former letter has not been acknowledged. Probably the state of his Excellency's health & his multiplied concerns since his return have hitherto prevented a reply. I will therefore take the liberty to observe that the communication of your Excellency was laid before the council at their late meeting. The resolutions of the Legislature of your state therein referred to and the determination of your Excellency to carry them into effect afforded to this government the highest satisfaction.

With the greatest respect I have the
honour to be your Excellency's
obedient & very humble servant
JOHN COTTON SMITH

His Excellency Governour JONES
[Copy]

¹Reverse of [1.150]. Arranged here chronologically.

WILLIAM G. WILLIAMS TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[1:152]

NEW HARTFORD Aug^t 25th 1812

Dear Sir,

A number of the people in this place have, for some time, been anxious to have an Artillery Company formed within this Reg^t & have several times conversed with me upon the subject, requesting me to use my endeavors to bring it about. I have, however, uniformly declined taking an active part in the business, until last evening, when some of the gentlemen in the neighborhood, thinking it a favorable time to bring the subject forward, again applied to me, and [requested] me to draw a Petition to his Excellency. One of my principal objections to the measure arose from an belief that it would meet with opposition from the located Company of Grenadiers in this place; but, on conversing with the officers of that Company, I find, contrary to my expectations, that they are in favor of it. It is believed that a company can be formed principally from exempts within this Town. There is, indeed, a number of this description, in this vicinity, who are engaged upon the subject, & who would cheerfully enrol themselves in such a Company. They feel, as we all do, that it is important Connecticut should be placed in a posture of defence, & especially that part of it which can be relied upon in case of an emergency. This Regiment is as respectable for numbers & for discipline as any one in the Brigade.

M^r Mills informs me that an application was made to Governor Trumbull about eight years since. The only reason which the Governor then gave for not granting their request, was, that the State was not provided with ordinance. that it would be therefore useless to have such a company organized; but that when the State should be provided with ordinance he would remember them.

I am, Sir, with great respect
in haste, your obed^t humble Serv^t
W^m G WILLIAMS

[Endorsed] Wm G Williams Letter De Artillery Company

CHARLES CHRISTIAN TO ROGER GRISWOLD

[1:153]

Police office, NEW
YORK, Sept^r 17th 1812

His Excellency Roger Griswold,

Sir, The following extract is from an examination, taken in this office, of John Prosser, a notorious villain and vender of counterfeit money. It is necessary to state that little reliance can be had on any thing Prosser says, but as he made this statement under expectation of being thereby benefited, a probability exists of its' truth, and if so, it is of importance to develope the subject.

My unacquaintance with any of the local magistrates of Connecticut explains why your Excellency is addressed on this subject. I beg leave to suggest if it would not be of mutual advantage to have an occasional correspondence on those subjects between some police authority of Connecticut, and the Magistrates at this office.

"City of New (York)
September (16th 1812)

John Prosser being duly sworn deposeth & saith, That in the Month of February last he was at Salsbury in the State of Connecticut at the house of one Buel Bignal. There saw John Connor (Connor is of this City) purchase of said Bignal five hundred dollars of counterfeit bank notes for which he gave his great coat, watch and some good money. Bignal's house is at the place they dig up iron ore. That Jeremiah Totten was present at said transaction.

Sworn before me
Sept^r 16th 1812 "

Charles Christian Special Justice
of the Peace

Prosser told me today that at the house of one Saunders' about

200 yards above Bignel's there are secreted in the rafters of the roof five or six plates and a quantity of forged notes.

With great respect, I have the
honor to remain your Excellency's
Most obed Servant

CHARLES CHRISTIAN

[Superscribed] His Excellency ROGER GRISWOLD Norwich State
of Connecticut Lyme 23^d Sep^r 8

[Endorsed] Charles Christian Esqr De counterfeit notes

PETITION TO ROGER GRISWOLD

[1:159]

*To his Excellency Roger Griswold Esq. Governor and Commander
in Chief in and over the State of Connecticut,*

The Petition of the undersigned humbly sheweth: That, by the advice & consent of the General of the Seventh Brigade, and of the Lieut. Col. Commandant of the Twenty third Regiment, they, with others, have associated together, for the purpose of forming a company of Horse Artillery, provided your Excellency and the Honorable General Assembly shall deem it expedient to grant them an Act of Incorporation.

And they represent, that there is no company of artillery attached to the Twenty third Regiment, nor any Artillery Corps, within the limits of the said Regiment; and they further represent, that the establishment of such Corps, will be no disservice to the present established companies, but of manifest advantage to the Seventh Brigade.

The utility, and we may say, necessity of a proportionate Body of Horse Artillery, to the success of military operations, is fully demonstrated in the history of modern warfare. The high rank, which the militia of this State already hold in the estimation of their country, we apprehend, will be rather enhanced, than diminished by the establishment of a proportionate Corps of Horse Artillery. The honor and welfare of our State & Country are dear to us; and we shall be happy to

contribute all in our Power, to the Support of its character for correctness and decision.

Impressed with these views we pray your Excellency to establish us as a corps of Artillery, under such regulations, as to your Excellency shall appear proper.

Dated at Middletown, this 1st day of October A. D. 1812.

CH: WHITTELSEY

LYSANDER WELLS

TH^s HUBBARD

JOHN D. JOHNSON

HENRY SOUTHMAYD

CHARLES RUSSELL

WILLIAM TROWBRIDGE

JAMES B. SUMNER

WILLIAM COTTON

JOHN BOUND

WILLIAM I. SOUTHMAYD

DENIS GREEN

RANDOLPH PEASE

Resolution passed by General Assembly¹

[1:158]

At a General Assembly of the State of Connecticut holden at New Haven in said State on the second Thursday of October A.D. 1812

Whereas the town of New-London on account of its local situation is peculiarly exposed to incursions of the enemy; wherefore

Resolved by this Assembly that the Commander in Chief be, and he is hereby requested to direct the Quarter-Master General to send three of the brass field pieces which were directed to be purchased by this Assembly at the session in October 1811 to said town of New-London as soon as the same shall be received for the use of the artillery there, and to have the same mounted at New-London as expeditiously as may be, and also to furnish sufficient ammunition for the same, and for other purposes of defence.

A true Copy of record

Examined by

THOMAS DAY, Sec^y

[Endorsed] Copy of Resolve de defence of N. London Oct. 1812

¹Documents 154-157 are inspection returns and are here omitted.

EBENEZER HUNTINGTON TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[1:160]

NORWICH Octo^r 13th 1812

His Honor Lieu^t Governor Smith

Sir

The inclosed application from a number of Gentlemen in Middletown to be formed into a company of Horse Artillery, addressed to his Excellency Governor Griswold, is by his order forwarded to you, that the Legislature may do whatever they may think proper. By direction of the Governor I have notified the applicants, that he doth not consider the grant, within his power, as the proportion of Cavalry & Artillery, already raised, is as great as the act of Congress permits.

I am with much esteem & respect
your very humble servant

EBEN: HUNTINGTON Adj^t Gen^l

[Superscribed] His Honor Lieu^t Governor SMITH New Haven
Chelsea Landing C^t October 14 20

[Endorsed] Gen^l E. Huntington de Horse artillery

EBENEZER HUNTINGTON TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[1:161]

NORWICH 14th Octo^r 1812

dear sir

The returns which are rec^d at my office, do not inform me the location of the matross companies, I have no information more minute, than what is contained in the returns transmitted to you under date of the 12th instant.

I regret that I could not forward the returns in a more complete manner, but the want of returns from the respective brigades, obliged me to forward them in their present state.

My returns laid before the Legislature last May, will shew the total numbers of Companies.

I am with much esteem & respect
your very humble servant

EBEN: HUNTINGTON

His Honor Governor Smith will please observe that the commissions for the volunteers, are to be sent through my office to the Gentlemen elected, as soon as they can be completed

15 Last even^{gs} mail, enables me to furnish the artillery return of the 2^d brigade, which I must ask to have return^d to me at the close of the session

His Honor Governor SMITH

[Superscribed] His Honor L^t Governor SMITH New Haven
Chelsea Landing C^t October 16 20

[Endorsed] Gen^l E. Huntington de military returns

LUTHER BRADLEY TO ROGER GRISWOLD

[1:162]

NEW HAVEN Oc^t 17th 1812.

Sir,

We take the liberty to Informe your Excellency that we have ben Severaly Notefied by Cap^t Phineas Peck of the 2^d Company of Grenadeers 32 Reg^t that he has Imposed a fine of \$2.50 on Each of us for Non appearance at the parade of S^d Company in Woodbridge for Company Exercise and Inspection upon the 1 Monday of Sep^t 1812 and that he has also Imposed a fine of \$4.00 on Each of us for Non appearance in S^d Company at their Parade in Oxford on the 17th Sep^t 1812 for Regimental Exercise and Inspection. we beg leave to State to your Excellency that we Severally Enlisted into the 2^d Company of Govenors Foot Guards and ware Enroled and equiped and did [d]uty acording to Law long before the first Monday of May 1812 and that we are Severally Claimed as belonging to S^d 2^d Company of Gov^s Foot Guards. we theirfore Appeal to your Excellency for a decision in Each of our Respective Cases. Viz James Perkins, Samuel Bradley Roger Sperry, Enoch Carrington, Stephan Peck, Mark Sperry & Thaddeus Sperry. at the Request of the above Named Persons I have Made the appeal to your Excellency.

With Respect Sir Remain your
Excellencys Ob^t Sev^t

LUTHER BRADLEY

PAPERS OF JOHN COTTON SMITH

Maj^r Commandant 2^d Company Gov^r Foot Guards
[Superscribed] His Excellency ROGER GRISWOLD Norwich
Endorsed] Major Luther Bradley's appeal.

Notice issued at N. Haven by me 30 Oct. 1812 for trial
on 13th Nov. 2 o'clock P.M.

at which time the parties appeared & were heard, & on
such hearing the fines were ordered to be abated & re-
mitted See copy of the order enclosed

EBENEZER HUNTINGTON TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[1:163]

NORWICH 19 Octo^r 1812

My dear sir

May we not expect from the insidious policy of the ad-
ministration, that an attempt will be made (by a law framed
for the purpose) to raise volunteer Corps in each state *for*
state defence, & that we shall find all the restless spirits em-
bodied & arrayed, under the name of Volunteers, & arms put
into their hands to effect whatever purposes may be conceived
necessary. Should such an army be attempted, it would be
much more to be dreaded than regular inlisted troops. If the
Legislature authorise troops to be inlisted for State purposes,
I hope the *number* will not be limited but by the discretion
of the Commander in Chief & I am of opinion that the Arms
belonging to the State would be *safer* in the hands of the Vol-
unteer Corps formed & forming in the respective Towns, then
in *any place of deposit*

yours very sincerely

EBEN: HUNTINGTON

Governor SMITH

[Superscribed] His Honor L^t Governor SMITH New Haven

[Endorsed] Gen^l Eben^r Huntington De volunteers 19. Oct. 1812

ELIHU MONSON TO ROGER GRISWOLD

[1:164]

NEW HAVEN Oct^r 22^d 1812

To His Excellency Roger Griswold Esq^r

Sir

I addressed a Letter to your Excellency dated the 12 instant requesting your Excellency to accept my resignation as Major Commandant of the 2^d Cop^y of Governors Horse Guard which Letter I directed to Your Excellency at Lyme but hearing that your Excellency resides at this time at Norwich I presume the Letter has not come to hand or I should have received an answer. My reasons for resigning are first that I am embarrassed very much in my pecuniary affairs 2^d that I had held the Office four years 3^d that the Company had made such progress that they did not stand in need of my services & that there were my able Subaltern Officers who would probably more than make my place Good

Presuming your Excellency will judge the foregoing reason sufficient & grant my discharge I would also request your Excellency to give an order to lead the Company to a Choice of Officers to fill the vacancies made by my discharge that they may be Commissioned this session of Assembly.

I am most respectfully your Excellency's

Most obedient & very Hum^l Servant

ELIHU MONSON

[Superscribed] His Excellency ROGER GRISWOLD Norwich

[Endorsed] Major Elihu Monson Requesting a discharge

Elishu Monson Letter

BENJAMIN TALLMADGE TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[1:165]

LITCHFIELD Oct^o 23^d 1812

Dear Sir

The enclosed Letter is my reply to your official Letter of the 17th instant.

On monday next, I expect to leave this place for the Seat of Gov^t, & never have I gone to Washington with such solemn forebodings of impending ruin to our Country — May a merciful God interpose for our Salvation

I am very sincerely
& affectionately Yours
BENJⁿ TALLMADGE

L^t Gov^r SMITH

[Superscribed] Hon^{ble} L^t Gov^r SMITH New Haven

[Endorsed] Hon. B. Tallmadge Acceptance as M. C.

SETH P. STAPLES TO ROGER GRISWOLD

[1:166]

NEW HAVEN Oct 24th 1812

*To his Excellency Roger Griswold Esqr Governor & Capt Gen^l
of the Militia of Connecticut*

Sir

By a Resolution of the Gen^l Assembly passed at the special Session in Oct. 1812 the Cap^t General was authorized to direct the Quarter Master to issue Amunition to such Artillery Companies as had been ordered to hold themselves in readiness. When I last saw you in New Haven, I understand that such an Order had been or would be given. We have rec^d no amunition; & the Quarter Master informs me that he has rec^d no orders to that effect though he had expected one. I presume it is necessary for me to send a copy of the resolve. I write merely to bring this subject to you Excellency's recollection.

I am with the highest respect your Excellency's
Most Obt & verry Humble Serv^t
SETH P STAPLES

[Superscribed] To his Excellency ROGER GRISWOLD Esq. Cap.
Gen^l of Connect^t Militia Norwich Conn

[Endorsed] Major Staples 24. Oct. 1812 De Amunition &
Addressed to Gov^r Griswold Ansr^d by me 5. Nov^r
1812

CHAUNCEY GOODRICH TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[1:167]

NEW HAVEN Oct^r 25. 1812

Sir

I am just informed by your Letter of yesterday's date of my being elected by the Legislature of this State, a Senator of the United States. I accept the office with the sentiments of grateful respect due for this renewed, and so distinguished a mark of the public confidence, and have the honour to be, very respectfully, Sir,

Your Obed^t, & very
humble Servant,

CHAUNCEY GOODRICH

[Superscribed] His Honour JOHN C SMITH

[Endorsed] Hon. C. Goodrich's letter of acceptance as
Sen^{tr} U. S.

SAMUEL A. WOODRUFF TO ROGER GRISWOLD

[1:168]

His excellency Roger Griswold Esq^r

Sir,

I am willing to receive a Commission, agreeably to the act of the present Legislature of this State. Not having the honor of an acquaintance with your Excellency, I take the liberty to refer to M^r Daggett and M^r Dwight (with both of whom I have some acquaintance) for any enquiry which your Excellency may please to make concerning my character.

Respectfully your humble Serv^t

SAM^l A. WOODRUFF

SOUTHINGTON October

26th 1812

[Superscribed] [His Excellency Roger Griswold Esq. Lyme] *

His Honour JOHN C SMITH New Haven Conn^t

Southington Oct 26 8

[Endorsed] Sam^l A. Woodruff's Application for office.

*This address has been crossed out and the address which follows added.

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO MRS. FRANCES GRISWOLD

[1:169]

NEW HAVEN 28. Oct. 1812

Madam

From the proceedings of the General Assembly herewith transmitted you will learn with what profound sorrow the members of that Honourable Body are penetrated at the death of your illustrious consort. Their sense of his exalted worth and of his eminent public services, and their sympathy for your sufferings are feelingly expressed in the resolutions they have adopted upon this melancholy occasion.

If the grief of others can assuage your own, you will indeed find abundant consolation in the deep affection of a whole People. But vain is human support! He alone who hath wounded can heal, and to His divine aid & compassion I most devoutly commend you Madam and your fatherless children.

With sentiments of esteem & condolence

I have the honour to be Madam

your sincere friend and

obedient servant

JOHN COTTON SMITH

M^{rs} FRANCES GRISWOLD

[Endorsed] Letter to Mrs. Griswold by order of Gen^l Assembly
Copy

LETTER FROM JOHN COTTON SMITH TO

COL. JOHN MIX

[1:158]

Sent an order to Col Mix Q. M. Gen^l pursuant to this resolve
30. Oct. 1812

Copy of letter to Col. John Mix Q. M. General

Sir

Pursuant to a resolve of the Gen^l Assembly passed at the Oct. Session AD 1812 you are hereby directed to send three of the brass field pieces which were directed to be purchased

by the Gen^l Assembly at the session in October 1811 to the town of N. London, as soon as the same shall be received, for the use of the Artillery there, and to have the same mounted at New London as expeditiously as may be, and also to furnish sufficient ammunition for the same and for other purposes of defence" at that place.

You will be pleased Sir to inform me of the receipt of this order.

I am sir respectfully &c
J. C. SMITH L^t Gov.
& Com^r-in-chief.

MOSES HAYDEN TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[1:170]

His Honor Lieut. Governor, State Conn.

Sir,

With great respect I would trouble your Honor with a line therein tendering my services as a Major of one of the Reg^s of Infantry now to be raised, Organized &C

Please to take it into your wise consideration Sir and excuse the freedom of

Your obedient
humble Servant
MOSES HAYDEN
of Barkhamsted
Litchfield County

His Honor J. C. SMITH

Oct. 30th 1812

[Superscribed] His Honor JOHN C. SMITH Lieut. Gov. State
Con.

[Endorsed] Moses Hayden's Application for office

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO PHINEAS PECK

[1:171]

*To Capt. Phineas Peck of 2nd company of Grenadiers
32nd Regiment of Connecticut Militia.*

Sir

Whereas Major Luther Bradley commandant of the 2nd company of Governour's foot-guards, at the request of James Perkins, Samuel Bradley, Roger Sperry, Enoch Carrington, Stephen Peck, Mark Sperry and Thaddeus Sperry, has made his appeal to the late Capt. General against your Sentence imposing fines upon the said James, Samuel, Roger, Enoch, Stephen, Mark and Thaddeus respectively who are claimed as belonging to the said company of Foot guards. And whereas the right of deciding upon said appeal does, on the demise of the Captain General, devolve on me.

You are therefore hereby notified to appear, if you see cause, at my dwelling-house in Sharon in the county of Litchfield on the 13th day of November next at two o'clock in the afternoon to be heard in the premises, and to do and suffer whatever shall be adjudged in that behalf.

Given under my hand at NEW HAVEN the 30th day of October A. D. 1812.

JOHN COTTON SMITH Lieut. Gen^l
And Commander in Chief.

[Endorsed] LUTHER BRADLEY Major 2. Co Guards. Notification
to appellee & appellants

[Copy]

WOODBIDGE Novb^r 2^d 1812

I Certify that the within Notiffication has ben duly Served on Cap^t Phineas Peck 2^d Comp^y Grenadiers 32^d Reg^t of Con^t Militia and also on all the appellants viz. James Perkins Samuel Bradley Roger Sperry Enoch Carrington Stephan Peck Mark Sperry & Thaddeus Sperry.

HEZ^h HOTCHKISS J^r

JOHN BESTOR AND OTHERS TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[1:172]

To his Honor, John Cotton Smith, Esq^r

Lieutenant General & Commander in Chief of the Militia of the State of Connecticut, and the Honorable Council.

The undersigners beg leave to recommend to the appointment of a *second lieutenantancy*, Mr. Reuben Tuller Jun^r of this town. Being personally acquainted with him, and knowing him to be a gentleman of correct principles, of abilities, and possessing military talents and ambition, we do therefore earnestly and confidently recommend the said Mr. Tuller to your Honors as a suitable person for a Lieutenant.

JOHN BESTOR

SERENO PETTIBONE

BENJAMIN ELY.

SIMSBURY Nov^r 1812.

[Endorsed] Reuben Tuller's Jun^r recommendation for 2nd Lieutenantancy

LUTHER BRADLEY TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[1:173]

NEW HAVEN Nov^r 2^d 1812.

Sir agreeable to your Honors Request I have Caused the Inclosed Notification to be Served on Cap^t Phineas Peck and also on All the Appellants. Viz. James Perkins Samuel Bradley Roger Sperry Enoch Carrinton Stephen Peck Mark Sperry and Thaddeus Sperry and Shall appear at the time and place for Tryall in behalf of the above Named Persons inless Cap^t Peck and My Self Can agree on Some Statement of Facts Respecting the appeal and in that Case we will Transmit to your Honor our agreement.

With due Respect

I am Sir yours Respectfully

LUTHER BRADLEY

[Superscribed] His Honor JOHN COTTON SMITH Sharon

[Endorsed] Major Luther Bradley 3. Nov^r 1812 5th rec^d enclosing notification.

JOHN MIX TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[1:174]

FARMINGTON November 2^d 1812.

Sir,

Yours of the 30th last containing an extract from a Resolve of the General Assembly at their late session was received last evening; I shall endeavour to obey the order, but it will be uncertain, for I am under a contract to have the whole of the field pieces alluded to in that Resolve mounted at Albany, they were cast a few miles from that place; I shall make a journey there next week, and if possible get released from a part of my contract; if that can be effected, I will forward the three pieces to New London agreeably to order and without a moment of unnecessary delay; but when they shall get there, I do not expect to find any one material, or workman competent for the business; yet no exertion on my part shall be wanting to have the Resolution strictly and literally complied with.

Pray Sir, what am I to understand by "sufficient ammunition" as mentioned in that Resolve?; if your Honor will direct the kind and quantity, your order shall be obeyed with the most scrupulous punctuality; but if it is left to my judgment, I might consider it unnecessary to send any there at present, for it must be presumed that the United States have a sufficient magazine of these articles at that place, which would be given out for use on any emergency.

I have the honor to be,
with much respect and esteem,
your very obedient servant,
JOHN MIX.

Hon^b JOHN COTTON SMITH

[Superscribed] Hon^b JOHN COTTON SMITH, Sharon. Farmington C^t Nov. 3

[Endorsed] Col. John Mix 2. Nov. 1812 Rec^d 5th ans^d 5th

ZEBUL BRADLEY TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[1:175]

NEW HAVEN November 3^d

1812

Sir having imposed a fine for neglect of doing military duty in the company under my command on M^r John C Bush who is also claimed as belonging to the horse guards, he has informed me he has appealed to your Excellency and should your Excellency think proper to decide the appeal from a statement of the facts being presented in writing and signed by M^r Bush and myself we will send it

with the highest respect

I remain your Excellencys

most obedient servant

ZEBUL BRADLEY Capt

1st Comp 2^d Regt

[Superscribed] To His Excellency JOHN C. SMITH Sharon

[Endorsed] Capt. Zebul Bradley 3. Nov. 1812 Rec^d 5th Answ^d

5th De J. C. Bush's appeal.

JOHN C. BUSH TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[1:176]

NEW HAVEN. Nov. 3^d 1812

Sir

Some time since I subscribed to the by-laws and became a member of the 2^d Company of governors horse guards, for this state, though I have never done duty in said company I hold myself ready so to do when any perticular exigency shall require it.

I have since been called upon to pay fines in the militia company under the command of Cap Zelah Bradly. Will you please to designate under the Jurisdiction of which company I am, as I am claim^d by both.

With much respect I am

your Ob^t Ser^t

JOHN C. BUSH

To the Hon^o JOHN COTTON SMITH commander in chief
in Connecticut

PAPERS OF JOHN COTTON SMITH

[Superscribed] Hon^e JOHN COTTON SMITH Sharon Con Mail
[Endorsed] John C. Bush 3. Nov^r 1812 Rec^d 5th Answ^d 5th
Appeal — (Military)

JABEZ RIPLEY TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[1:177]

HARTFORD 3^d Nov 1812

His Honour John C Smith Esquire

Sir

Noticing that the Legislature have Passed a Law providing for raising a Military force for the defence of this State, and that appointments are to be made by the commander in chief. Induces me to request your honour to give me a Commission of 1st Lieutenant of Cavalry, or Infantry. That I may have an opportunity of evincing my Zeal and Attachment for my Native State.

I am with much respect
Your Honours Ob^t Serv^t
JABEZ RIPLEY

[Superscribed] His Honour, JOHN C. SMITH Esq^r Sharon
[Endorsed] Jabez Ripley 3. Nov. 1812 Rec^d 5th application
for office

EBENEZER HUNTINGTON TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[1:178]

NORWICH 4 Nov^r 1812

My dear sir,

In reply to your favor of the 31st Ult^o, which was duly rec^d, as were also the returns of the Militia by M^r Goddard, I would remark, that his Exe^y the late Gov^r Griswold considering the necessity of preserving the *associations* of the volunteers companies which ascertain the limits, & for the regular issuing of the orders for leading the companies to the choice of officers, as well as for the eventual formation of the companies into Battalions, Regiments & C threw the whole

business into my hands barely reserving to himself, the approbation of the *Association*, & after indorsing his approbation thereon, sent the same to me for preservation, & for issuing the necessary orders for choosing officers, which orders have directed the choice of officers, to be transmitted to my office.

His Exe^y informed me that he should have the Commissions signed, & impose on me the filling them agreeably to the returns, & that I must charge the same to the State, as yet, no commissions have been issued.

The form I have adopted for orders to lead companies to a choice is inclosed. Your wish to see me at Hartford in December will be met. I presume among the papers of the late Gov^r, you will observe the letters from yourself & the General Officers on the subject of an Uniform. that business was not quite matured when I left home for New York, the trouble will of course devolve on you, if in your opinion, any change shall be deemed expedient. I have thought it probable, that it would be convenient to you, to have the person who perform^d the duties of Adj^t Gen^l, resident near you, should you find a person contiguous, to perform the duties, I shall avail myself of the first intimation to resign the office, & deliver over the papers in my possession. I sincerely join with you in deploring the death of our excellent & mutual friend the late Gov^r Griswold. having been intimately acquainted with him since he left College, I early learnt to respect his virtues & luminous talents. The loss to his family is incalculable; & to the United States & this State in particular, at the present apparent approaching crisis, is deeply to be lamented. Accept the assurances of my friendship for yourself, my respects to M^{rs} Smith & believe me

your very humble servant

EBEN: HUNTINGTON

Governor SMITH

[Superscribed] His Honor Governor SMITH Sharon Chelsea
Landing November 6 25

[Endorsed] Adjut. Gen^l Huntington 4. Nov^r 1812. Recd. 10th
Answ^d 13th

JOHN BESTOR AND OTHERS TO JOHN COTTON SMITH
[1:179]

We, the undersigned, being personally acquainted with Sereno Pettibone Esq. of Simsbury in Hartford County; and knowing that he is a gentleman of talents, uprightness, and respectable standing in society firmly attached to the best interests of his country, and the constitution and government of this State; having early had the advantage of a liberal education, being now in the prime of life, possessing, as we conceive, a Military Genius, and being desirous to serve his country in the corps of infantry about to be raised, by the late act of the General Assembly of this State; We do most cheerfully recommend him to his honor the Lieut. Governor and Commander in Chief & the Honourable Council as a very proper person to command one of the companies to be raised under s^d act.

November 4th 1812.
JOSEPH BATTELL
BENJAMIN WELSH
NATH^l STEVENS
JERIMIAH W. PHELPS

JOHN BESTOR
WILLIAM MATHER
TH. S. WILLIAMS
JOSEPH TRUMBULL
J W EDWARDS
CALVIN BARBER
BENJAMIN ELY
REUBEN TULLER JUN^r
W^m G. WILLIAMS
MICHAEL F. MILLS

[Endorsed] Recommendation of Sereno Pettibone Esq^r
for Captain

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO SETH P. STAPLES
[2:1]

SHARON 5th Nov. 1812

Dear Sir,

Amongst the official papers of the late Capt. Gen^l transmitted to me I find a letter addressed by you to his Excellency under date of 24th Oct^r last, reminding him that no order had

issued to the Quarter Master Gen^l to furnish the Battalion of Artillery at N. Haven with ammunition pursuant to the resolve of the Gen^l Assembly in August last.

I have not a copy of the resolve altho' I recollect generally its purport. Presuming from the date of this letter, being the day before the demise of His Excellency, that no farther measures have been taken, I have this day written to the Quarter Master General directing him to issue the necessary supply of ammunition to the commanding officer of the Battalion. The order is of course expressed in general terms, confiding the kind & quantity to his prudence & judgment. Should you be of opinion that the direction ought to be more specific I shall not hesitate to render it so, and shall feel obliged by your advice as to the extent to which the supply should be granted. On your knowledge not only of the Size of the pieces but of the nature & urgency of the Service I shall rely with great confidence.

I am Sir respectfully your obedient
& very humble servant
J. C. SMITH

Col. SETH P. STAPLES.

[Endorsed] To Col. S. P. Staples copy

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO JOHN C. BUSH

[2:2]

SHARON 5. Nov^r 1812

Sir,

Yours of the 3rd instant is received, and I have also to acknowledge the receipt of a letter from Capt. Bradley upon the Same Subject. Capt. Bradley proposes to agree with you in a written statement of facts in the case & to present it for my decision. To this course I perceive no objection.

It is proper for me to inform you that in addition to any other evidence you may deem proper, it will be necessary for you to shew that the Com^t of the Guards had *the approbation of the late Capt. General to recruit from the battalion companies* at the time of your enlistment.

I propose to be at Hartford on public business the first

PAPERS OF JOHN COTTON SMITH

day of December next at farthest, and unless you and Capt. Bradley otherwise agree you will be pleased to consider that day assigned for the trial of your appeal at my lodgings in that city, say at 6 o'clock P.M.

I am Sir respectfully your Ob^t Ser^t

J. C. SMITH

M^r JOHN C BUSH

[Endorsed] M^r J. C. Bush copy

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO ZEBUL BRADLEY

[2:3]

SHARON 5. Nov^r 1812

Capt. Zebul Bradley

Sir

Your letter of the 3rd instant, accompanied by one from M^r J. C. Bush upon the same subject, is this day received. I entirely approve of the method proposed by you of presenting a statement in writing of the facts relative to the conflicting claims of the two companies upon the Services of M^r Bush, Subscribed by both parties, There shall be no delay in the decision after the Statement is received If however you & M^r Bush do not agree in a written statement, you will be pleased to take notice that I shall be at Hartford on public business the first day of December next and will on that day hear and determine the appeal at my lodgings in that city, Say at 6 o'clock P.M. I communicate by the present mail the like notice to M^r Bush.

I am Sir respectfully your Ob^t Ser^t

J. C. SMITH

[Endorsed] to Capt. Z. Bradley copy.

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO JOHN MIX

[2:4]

SHARON 5. Nov^r 1812

Sir

Your letter of the 2nd instant is received. Until more particular information can be obtained from New London, "the

kind & quantity" of ammunition to be forwarded for the defence of that place must be referred to your sound discretion, without the least reference however to any magazines which the United States may possess at Fort Trumbull.

That the resolution of the Assembly should have produced embarrassment in your contract for mounting the field-pieces is to be deeply regretted. I hope nevertheless Sir you will Succeed in executing the order without much inconvenience to yourself or disadvantage to the public.

Amongst the official papers of the late Capt. General I find a letter addressed to His Excellency by Major Staples, dated 24. Oct. 1812 reminding him that no order had been issued to the Quarter Master General to supply the Battalion of Artillery at New Haven with amunition agreeably to the resolve of August last. I presume from the date of this letter being the day before the demise of His Excellency, that no attention could have been paid to its contents. I have not a copy of that resolve, although I retain a general recollection of its purport. Under these circumstances I must request you Sir, to furnish the commanding officer of the Battalion with the necessary supply of ammunition. Acquainted as you are with the size of the pieces the nature of the service and the degree of urgency that may exist, the proportion & quantity will be confided to your prudence and judgment. If however you deem a more specific order requisite in this case, or in that at New London, or in both, I shall not hesitate to give it, but in such an event I shall feel obliged by your opinion of the extent to which the issues ought to be allowed.

I am Sir respectfully
your obedient and
very humble servant
J. C. SMITH

Col. Mix.

[Endorsed] Col. Jno. Mix Copy

WILLIAM MATHER AND OTHERS TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[2:5]¹

To his Honor John Cotton Smith Lieutenant Governor and commander in chief of the Military Force of the State of Connecticut.

The undersigned being personally acquainted with Lieut. Benajah H. Wilcox of Simsbury in said state, beg leave to represent that he is a person of respectable family, a man of education and good morals, has served, to the satisfaction of his superior officers and with honor to himself, in different grades in the Militia of this state, sixteen years, the five last of which as Adjutant of the eighteenth regiment, and from his general character, the undersigned believe him to be possessed of true courage, honorable principles, strict integrity, and firmly attached to the best interests of his country, and in particular to the constitution and government of his native state. They would therefore recommend him to his Honor the Lieut. Governor and the honorable Council as a suitable person to be promoted to the rank of Major in the corps to be raised in pursuance of an act entitled "An Act to establish a Military force for the defence of this State." Dated November 10, 1812.

WILLIAM MATHER

CALVIN BARBER

DUDLEY HUMPHREY

SERINO PETTIBONE

SAMUEL CLARK

NOAH A. PHELPS

[Endorsed] Benj^h H. Willcox's recommendation for Major.

JOHN COTTON SMITH OPINION

[2:6]

HEAD QUARTERS 13. Nov^r 1812

On an appeal made to His Excellency the late Capt. Genl. on the 17th October AD 1812 by James Perkins, Samuel Bradley, Roger Sperry, Enoch Carrington, Stephen Peck, Jr Mark Sperry & Thaddeus Sperry claimed as belonging to the 2nd

¹See also under date of November 28, 1812.

Company of Governour's foot guards, from the Sentence of Phineas Peck Esquire Captain of 2nd Company grenadiers 32nd regiment imposing a fine of \$2.50 on each of the appellants claimed by him as belonging to said company of grenadiers for non appearance at company exercise on the first monday of September 1812 and also from the Sentence of the Same officer imposing a fine of \$4. on each of the appellants for non appearance in Said company at their parade in oxford 17th September 1812 for regimental Exercise & inspection. the right of deciding which appeal has on the demise of the Captain General devolved upon me. having notified the parties as well the appellants as the said Capt. Phineas Peck and heard them at large on the subject matter of said appeal, I am of opinion that the appellants were not liable to do military duty in said company of grenadiers on the several days before mentioned, having been previously & duly enlisted into said 2nd Company of Governour's foot guards under an order which legally issued from the late Capt. General, and I do therefore order adjudge & determine that the Several fines imposed as aforesaid on each of the appellants ought to be & the Same are hereby abated & remitted. And Major Luther Bradley is directed to execute this order by leaving an attested copy thereof with the Said Capt. Phineas Peck & report to me accordingly.

J. C. S. L^t Gen^l and
Com^r in Chief

[Endorsed] Copy of Sentence

RECOMMENDATION OF WALTER THRALL

[2:7]

We the subscribers being personally acquainted with M^r Walter Thrall of Granby consider him a suitable person to be Employ^d as a Captain in the Infantry Troops to be raised for the defence of this state. He is a young Gentleman of good Education and exampelary Morrals of good Abilleties lively apprehensions Enterprising Bold and Determined is Athletic in his person and sprightly in his Deportment and in easy

Circumstances respecting Property. He has a Millitary Talent
is an Ensign in the 18th Reg^t of Malitia in this state

PLINY HILLYER
A ROBBINS
ISAAC OWEN JU^r
SAM^l WOODRUFF
THAD^s LEAVITT
GODFREY SCARBOROUGH
OLIVER HANCHETT
JOHN W. HANCHETT
JOSEPH CORNISH
APOLLOS G HILLYER
CHARLES WASHBURN
WM GAY
MARTIN ELLSWORTH
OLIV^r MATHER

His Honour JOHN C. SMITH
Lieu^t Governor &C &C
GRANBY 16th Nov^r 1812.

[Endorsed] Walter Thrall's
recommendation for Captain
of Infantry

RECOMMENDATION OF JOHN FITCH

[2:8]

WINDHAM Nov^r 16th 1812

Sir

I am informed that the Governer and Council will in a
short time appoint the Officers for the Troops ordered
to be raised by this State. I am requested by John Fitch
Esq^r of this Town to state to you his wish to obtain the
appointmēt of Major in the Infantry. M^r Fitch has
received a liberal education, has been for some time in
the practice of the Law, and sustains a good character.
He now holds the Office of Brigade Major, and has dis-
charged the duties of it with reputation. I can assure you
that he is well qualified for the Office he wishes to obtain

I am with the greatest respect
your sincere Friend
and hb^{le} ser^t

ZEPHANIAH SWIFT

Governer SMITH

We the subscribers, do fully agree with his Hon^r Judge Swift, in the Facts stated in the above letter, and do Join with him in the request that M^r Fitch may be appointed to the Office above mentioned.

JABEZ CLARKE

DAVID YOUNG

HENRY WEBB

SAMUEL PERKINS

[Superscribed] Hon^{ble} JOHN C SMITH Esq^r Sharon

[Endorsed] Recommendation of John Fitch Esq^r as Major

SAMUEL H. WOODRUFF TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[2:9]

SOUTHINGTON Novm^r 18th 1812

Sir

I am willing to receive a commission, according to the provision of the act of the last General Assembly. Not having the honor of a personal acquaintance with your Honor, I beg leave to refer to M^r Dagget or M^r Dwight, of the Council, for any enquiry, your Honor may wish to make, concerning my character

I am Sir, with the highest respect
your humble servant

SAM^l H. WOODRUFF

Honorable JOHN C. SMITH

[Superscribed] Honorable JOHN C. SMITH Esq^e Sharon, Conn^t

Paid 10 Southington Nov. 14

[Endorsed] Sam^l H. Woodruff's application for office

WILLIAM G. WILLIAMS TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[2:10]

NEW HARTFORD Nov^r 18th 1812.

Dear Sir

I have been requested by some gentlemen in this place who think of enlisting into the New State Corps to apply for a

Captain's commission in that Corps. I have hitherto acted upon a principle, which I had deliberately formed, of never making a personal application for any office, either civil or military. Although I have long felt a secret desire of distinguishing myself in a military capacity, I had resolved to live & die in a humble private station, rather than become a beggar for office. That reluctance which I have hitherto felt for such a measure, would not now be overcome, were it not for the consideration of my personal acquaintance with you. From the experience I have had of your friendship I am induced to believe you would lend me your aid in obtaining an appointment, should you consider me deserving of it. I have not so much as intimated to any one my intention of asking for an appointment; but should you deem it not inconsistent with the duties you owe to the public, I shall feel myself under additional obligations to you should you think proper to nominate me to a Captaincy. I have only to add that in my opinion a company might be raised in this vicinity, agreeably to the act of Assembly, which any man might feel proud of commanding. I am, Sir, with great respect

Your obed^t humble Serv^t

W^m G WILLIAMS

Commander in Chief &c

[Endorsed] W^m G. Williams Esq^r application for office.

TIMOTHY CLARK TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[2:11]

HARWINTON 18th Nov^r 1812

Sir

Almost as Early as provision was made by Law the Able Bodied exempts from Military duty in this Town Associated together agreeable to an Act passed in August 1812. A correct transcript of the Articles of Association & a list of their Names I hereby Certify is Inclosed. We have been so unfortunate as not to obtain an order for the Choice of Officers, as early as the 15 Sep^t I wrote to His Excellency the Governor Informing him of the number who had Associated & requesting an order

&c He Immediately wrote an answer which by mistake went to Huntington & there remained a number of weeks but has Since been received. when I was at New Haven in October last not having as yet received any order & not knowing the cause His Excellency was again written to inquiring of him the reason of the delay, the Adj^t Gen^l Informed that it was Essential a Certified list of the names of the Gentlemen who had associated as Volunteers Should be transmitted which was immediately complied with but the Govenor Dying a Short time after we have again failed of obtaining an order. I therefore request that Your Honor would Issue the necessary order for the Choice of Officers & Send it by the Bearer M^r Lewis Catlin & I take the liberty to name Lieu^t Joseph Cook as being a Suitable person to lead Said Company to the choice of Officers.

I have the Honor to be Your Honors
most Obedient Humble Serv^t
TIMOTHY CLARK

His Honor JOHN C SMITH Esq^r
[Superscribed] His Honor JOHN C. SMITH Esqr Sharon
[Endorsed] Tim^o Clark Esquire 18. Nov^r 1812 de Harwinton
Volunteers

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO ELIHU MUNSON
[2:12]

HEAD QUARTERS NOV^r 19. 1812

On the appeal of John C. Bush claimed as belonging to the 2nd company of Horse Guards from the sentence of Zebul Bradley Esquire captain of 1st company 2nd Regiment of Infantry imposing a fine upon the appellatant for neglect of military duty in said first company where his services are also claimed.

There has been exhibited to me in this case a statement of facts subscribed by the Major commandant of said company of Guards, and the said Captain Zebul Bradley, with their joint request for my decision thereon.

By this statement it appears that the appellatant was at

first duly enrolled in the said company of Infantry, but neglected to perform military duty therein and paid his fines, that afterwards, to wit, on or about the 15th May last, under a recruiting order which issued from the late Captain General to the Major Commandant of the 2nd company of Horse Guards, the appellant enrolled himself in the company last mentioned, and is claimed as belonging thereto; but has failed to equip himself agreeably to the rules of the said company of guards, altho' he has paid fines for the neglect. For this failure in the appellant to equip himself, he is still deemed by the said Captain Bradley as liable to do duty in the said first company of Infantry, by virtue of the eleventh paragraph of the "Act for forming and conducting the military force of this State" and the appellant has been fined accordingly.

On full consideration of the premises I am of opinion that the 11th paragraph of the act referred to does not embrace the governour's Horse guards. The remedy for delinquency in not procuring the necessary equipments is provided by the act of May AD 1803; it being a species of that "gross neglect of duty" for which the commanding officer of the guards is authorized to dismiss any non commissioned officer, musician or private & to subject him upon due notice given, to perform military service in the militia company within whose limits the delinquent may reside. And it is confidently believed the Major Com^t will take care that this regulation is strictly enforced.

As the appellant was legally enrolled in the Horse guards he could not in the present instance be held amenable to the commanding officer of the said company of infantry. I do therefore order that the fine or fines imposed as aforesaid upon the appellant by Capt. Bradley be, & the same are hereby abated.

And Major Elihu Monson is directed to execute this order by leaving an attested copy thereof with Capt. Zebul Bradley & report to me accordingly.

J. C. SMITH L^t Gen^l C^{mt}

[Superscribed] Major ELIHU MONSON New Haven

[Endorsed] Order in the case of John C. Bush. copy

JOHN BESTOR AND OTHERS TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[2:13]

We the Subscribers being personally acquainted with M^r John Barber J^r of Canton in Hartford County, and knowing him to be a Gentleman of education, talents, uprightness & respectable standing in society; knowing him to be warmly attached to the best interests of his country and the welfare of this his native state; and being possessed of a military genius & wishing to serve his country in the corps of infantry about to be raised under the special act of Assembly passed at the October session of said Assembly in 1812; we do not hesitate to recommend him as a very proper person to serve his Country as a Lieu^t in the body of troops about to be raised under said act.

CANTON Nov^r 20th 1812.

JOHN BESTOR
WILLIAM MATHER
SERENO PETTIBONE
CALVIN BARBER
BENJAMIN ELY
JAMES HUMPHREYS
GEO. HUMPHREYS
SOLOMON EVEREST
RIVERIUS BIDWELL
ARNOLD P HUMPHREYS
SAMUEL CLARK

His Honor JOHN C. SMITH Lieu Gov^r and commander in chief in and over the State of connecticut.

[Endorsed] John Barber J^r recommendation for Lieutenant

EBENEZER TURNER TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[2:14]

Honoured Sir

The bearer of this M^r Silas Beckley is an active enterprising young Gentleman of this town and has a wish to engage in the Volunteer Corps of Infantry to be raised in this State and I have thought probable, that this town would furnish

one Commissioned Officer and I know of no other Gentleman who will be more likely to enlist our Compliment of men. I do therefore Recommend him to you as a Gentleman of a handsome Education and one who Sustains a fair Character and a Suitable person to be Commissioned as a Lieutenant or Ensign as may best agree with your arrangements I am Sir your most Obedient Servant EBENEZER TURNER

WARREN 23rd Nov^r 1812

[Superscribed] Honor^{ble} JOHN C. SMITH Lieu^t Governor and
Commander in Chief of the State of Connecticut Sharon
[Endorsed] Silas Beckley's application for office.

RECOMMENDATION OF JOEL CLARK

[2:15]

His Honour John C. Smith Lieu^t Governor &c

S^r We the Subscribers being personally acquainted with Cap^t Joel Clark of Granby consider him a Suitable person to be appointed a Major in the Infantry Troops to be Raised for the defence of this State &c. He now Commands a Company in the 18th Reg^t and is noticed for his Military Tallents is a Gentleman of good Education distinguished Morals Interprising Resolute and Determined has good Abilities and a large Property.

GRANBY 27th Nov^r 1812.

PLINY HILLYER
JOSEPH CORNISH
SAM^l WOODRUFF
A ROBBINS
ALSON HOSKINS
ISAAC OWEN JU^r
JOHN SARGEANT
MARTIN ELLSWORTH
OLIV^r MATHER

[Endorsed] Capt. Joel Clark's Application for the office of
Major

LINUS PARMELEE TO S. TITUS HOSMER

[2:16]

HADDAM Nov. 27th 1812.

Dear Sir,

Mr Bray was under the necessity of returning from Hartford and will not be able to see his Honor Govenour Smith upon the subject of the organization of a company of Artillery at Killingworth. It is his request that you would be so good as to inform Govenour Smith that an application for the organization of such a Company will reach Hartford on monday next. A list of the candidates for Officers will also be transmitted to the Govenour. In case that application does not arrive at Hartford, Mr Bray requests that you would take the trouble to mention the subject to the Govenour and give him the names of the following persons to be appointed as officers to the Comp^y.

Amaziah Bray, Esqr	Capt.
Linus Parmelee, Jr	1 st Lieut
Ely A. Eliott	2 nd do
Selden Huntington	3 rd do

I am, Dr Sir, Yours very

Respectfully

LINUS PARMELEE, JR.

Hon. S. TITUS HOSMER, Esqr Middletown

[Superscribed] Hon. S. TITUS HOSMER, Esqr Middletown

[Endorsed] Recommendation Am. Bray Capt. Artill.

L. Parmelee 1 Lieut.

E. A. Elliott 2. D^o

S. Huntington 3 D^o

PETITION FOR ARTILLERY COMPANY

[2:18]¹

To his Honor John C Smith Esq^r

Lieut Governor of the State of Connecticut

Sir

The undersigned Members of the Civil Authority of the Towns of Killingworth and Saybrook, feeling a deep solicitude
[2:17] is a copy.

for the Interests of our beloved Country, now involved in an inexpedient & unnecessary war as well as our own peculiar exposedness in consequence thereof, beg leave to represent to your Honor, that in our opinion the organization of an *Artillery Company* in the Town of Killingworth agreeably to the provision of an Act of the General Assembly entitled "An Act to establish a Military Corps for the defence of this State" would be highly conducive to the safety & security of *this* and the *adjacent Towns* as well as contribute generally to the great object the General Assembly had in view. When our local situation is taken into consideration, the obvious danger of a frontier sea-board, and the facility with which attacks & depredations can be committed, and also that there is no *Artillery Company* from Newhaven to Newlondon a distance of more than Fifty miles except, (as we believe) one, in the Northern part of Lyme, we trust your Honor will be induced to grant this Application, and establish such a Company accordingly, especially when we add, that, in our opinion, such a Company can be readily filled partly by *Exempts* & partly from the *Infantry Companies* in the vicinity, without reducing them below the legal number. There are other very important local reasons, that serve to fortify our opinion, as to the utility & propriety of such an establishment, which it would be, perhaps, unadvisable to detail.

For particulars, we beg to refer your Honor to the following Gentlemen of the Council, Mr Daggett, Mr Hosmer, Mr Griswold and Mr Champion, who have been made acquainted with the subject.

We humbly hope that your Honor will take this Application into serious consideration & do therein as shall appear most beneficial to the general Interest & our local safety

We are, Sir, with the utmost respect Your Honor's most
Obt. & very

hum^{bl} Servants

ABRAHAM PIERSON

JONATHAN LAY

JOB WRIGHT

GEORGE ELLIOTT

DAN LANE

AMAZIAH BRAY

KILLINGWORTH

Nov 27th 1812.

To his Honor John C Smith Esquire
Lieut Governor of the State of Connecticut

Sir

If your Honor should be of opinion that the establishment of an *Artillery Company* in this Town in pursuance of the foregoing Application would be consistent with the public Interest, we beg leave to recommend the following Gentlemen *disciples of the Old School* as proper Candidates to fill the places of Commissioned Officers.

Viz

Amaziah Bray Esq Killingworth	Captain
Linus Parmele Jun Esq Haddam	1 st Lieut.
Reuben Kelcey Saybrook	2 ^d Lieut.
Ely Augustus Elliott Killingworth	3 ^d Lieut.

We are, Sir, with respect

Your's &c ABRAHAM PIERSON
JONATHAN LAY
JOB WRIGHT
GEORGE ELLIOTT
DAN LANE

KILLINGWORTH
Nov^r 27th 1812

[Endorsed] Application for Artillery Company Killingworth
&c &c

AARON SMITH TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[2:19]

LITCHFIELD Nov^r 28 1812

Respected Sir,

Permit me to recommend to your notice, my brother Lucius Smith, as a person, whom I consider as well qualified to sustain the office of Lieu^t Co^l in the corps which are about to be raised for the defence of this State. M^r Smith has done duty as Brigade Major & Inspector in the Militia of this State for five years. I am aware that he has been superceeded, but am not informed, that his character as a man or an officer has been in the least impeached, unless indeed, it is to be infered from that circumstance

I am Sir with Sentiments of great consideration
most respectfully your Most

Ob^t & Very Humble Serv^t

AARON SMITH

Ho^c JOHN COTTON SMITH Esq^r

[Superscribed] Hon^l JOHN COTTON SMITH Esq^r now at Hartford

[Endorsed] Lucius Smith's recommendation for Lieut. Col.

RECOMMENDATIONS OF
JAMES BAKER AND DAVID AUGUSTUS SMITH

[2:20]

WINDHAM Nov^r 28th 1812.

The Hon^{ble} John C Smith, Esquire

Sir,

We are informed that the Governor & Council will soon appoint the officers for the troops ordered to be raised by the Legislature of this State. We are requested by M^r James Baker and M^r David Augustus Smith both of this Town to state to you their wishes to obtain the appointments of Subaltern Officers in the Infantry. They are young Gentlemen of good characters correct habits and principles, and we believe them well qualified for the offices they wish to obtain, and that they will discharge the duties of their offices with reputation should they receive appointments.

We are with great respect

Your Obedient Servants

ZEPHANIAH SWIFT

HEZEKIAH RIPLEY

DAVID YOUNG.

[Endorsed] Recommendation of James Baker and David Aug.
Smith for Subalterns.

RECOMMENDATION FOR OFFICERS

[2:21]

To His Honor Liut. Gov State of Con

Sir We the Undersigned would request that officers to command a Comp. of Infantry be appointed & Commissioned in

the Towns of Colebrook Winchester Barkhamstead Hartland & Newhartford that a Comp. may be enlisted from Said Towns, and we would reccommend the following Gent. as supporting fair Character & being good Military officers to wit

Commis ^d	{	Lemuel Hurlburt
Officers		Joel Hitchcock Lieut
		Erastus Merrels Ensign

together with such other Gent. as may be proper to appoint

WINCHESTER Nov. 28th 1812 SOLOMON ROCKWELL

ALPHA ROCKWELL

HOSEA HINSDALE

MOSES HAYDEN

JOSEPH MILLER

HORACE HIGLEY

BISSELL HINSDALE

[Endorsed] Recommendation of Lem^l Hurlburt Capt. Joel Hitchcock Lieut. Erastus Merrills Ensⁿ Company can be formed it is said

B. H. WILCOX TO MOSES TRYON

[2:5^l]

SIMSBURY 28th Nov^r 1812

Sir

Enclosed is the reccommendation which I mentioned when I saw you last, wish you to sepearate the papers & deliver to the proper persons the said writing. As it respects the *Artillery Company* the prospect of recruiting in the 18th reg^t is better than in any other with which I am acquainted; there being by the last returns in said reg^t 680 including officers, and only one company of dragoons recruited within its limits, and no other enlisted or independent company, I am Sir with respect your most

obedient & humble serv^t

B. H. WILCOX

Gen^l TRYON.

[Superscribed] Gen^l MOSES TRYON, Hartford

¹See also Document [2:5] in order.

PROPOSAL TO VOLUNTEER AS TROOP OF HORSE

[2:22]

To his Excellence John Cotton Smith Esq^r Commander in Chief in & over the State of Connecticut

In persuance of an Act of the General Assembly of this State passed at their Session in Oct last entitled An Act to establish a Military Corps for the defence of this State. We the undersigned being the 1st Troop of the 7th Reg^t of Cavalry attached to the 7th Brigade of the Connecticut Militia do hereby by Company volunteer our services upon the terms & conditions of S^d Act to become a Troop of Horse in S^d Military Corps about to be raised. In witness whereof the following Names are hereto affixed this 30th Day of Nov^r 1812 by Richrd Lord in virtue of a Power him thereto enabling

Rich rd Lord Cap ^t	John Watrous
Orin Chapman 1 st Lieut	Jonah Marsh
Jared S Miner Cornet	Worthy W Hills
Ogden S Ackley Serjt	Bela Robbins
Jabesh Jones Serjt	Erastus Cone
Erastus Jones Serjt	Sophron Usher
Waren A Skinner Cop ^l	Nathan C Burnham
Charles Taylor Cop ^l	Elias Loomise
Christopher C Gates Cop ^l	Sam ^l Strickland
Julius Chapman Cop ^l	Daniel Williams 2 ^d
Ralph Carrier Trumpeter	Russel Kellog
Privates	William M F Moesley
Nathan Williams	Joseph Willard
David Bulkley 2 ^d	Lewis Loverage
Jared Cone	Julius Church
David Bulkley 2 ^d	John L Peck
James Saxton 2 ^d	Noah W Pomroy
Jonothan Williams	Abner C Tarbill
Franklin G Comstock	Charles Attwood
Ruben Brainard	Thomas Moesley

Sylvester Cone J^r

[Superscribed] His Excellence, JOHN COTTON SMITH Esq Com-
mander in Chief in & over the State of Connecticut.

[Endorsed] Cavalry 1st Troop 7th Reg^t. Proposal to volunteer
in the Military corps.

WORTHINGTON G. CHAUNCEY TO S. TITUS HOSMER

[2:23]

DURHAM Nov^{br} 30th 1812

Sir

By the request of M^r John Butler & M^r Joseph Tuttle Juⁿ I address a few lines to you recommending them for Commissions in the Military Corps Contemplated to be rais'd and attach^d to the Governour of this State. M^r Butler has Serv^d in the Military department for a number of years as Adjutant of the 10th Regiment and even his political opponents acknowledge his merits as a Military Character. I would therefore recommend him for the office of Captain. M^r Tuttle has long serv^d as a private in the Militia and in Consequence of political dissensions in the Militia Company in Durham the Exertions of his friends have prov^d ineffectual to raise him from that humble Station although he has long merited promotion I would therefore recommend him for the office of Lieutenant Should you Sir name them to the Governour & Counsel I hesitate not to say that they will do honor to the Offices propos^d

I Am Sir with Sentiments of Esteem your Humbl
Servant

WORTHINGTON G CHAUNCEY

Honb^{le} S. TITUS HOSMER Esq^r

[Superscribed] Hon. S TITUS HOSMER Esq^r Middletown

[Endorsed] John Butler's recommendation for *Captain*
Joseph Tuttle Jr. D^o for Lieutenant

JOHN R. WATROUS TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[2:24]

COLCHESTER Dec^r 1st 1812

To His Honour, John C. Smith Esq^r

Sir,

In the appointment of the officers of the different Corps of State Troops about to be raised, it may perhaps not be esteemed impertinent for Citizens to name some person as Candidate for such appointment. Among others who may be named, I would take the liberty to recommend Maj^r David

Deming of this Town as a proper Candidate for the office of the same rank he now holds in the Cavalry. He is a Gentleman of respectable talents as a Man, as a Military officer, but few exceed him, he is well acquainted with military tactics, with the manual & other exercises, manœuvres & discipline, and should he be appointed, I have no hesitation in saying he will do honour to the office in particular, and to the Military generally.

Gen^l Champion, or Judge Griswold can give any information respecting the Candidate, which may be required.

I am, Sir, with much respect,
your Honours, most obed^t serv^t

JOHN R WATROUS

[Superscribed] His Honour JOHN C. SMITH Esq^r L^t Governor,
Connec^t Care of Gen^l Champion now at Hartford
If Governour Smith is not at Hartford, Gen^l Champion is
requested to open this Letter

[Endorsed] Major D. Deming's recommendation

RECOMMENDATION OF ELIZUR HINSDALE

[2:25]

The Undersigned Co^l Commandant of the 25 Regiment of Infantry being well acquainted with the merits of Elizur Hinsdale Lieutenant of the 7th Company under my command feel happy in embracing an opportunity of naming him to his Honor the Lieutenant Gov^r and the Honorable Council as a suitable person to fill the Office of Captain in the Corps voted to be raised at the last session of the Legislature Dated at WINCHESTER the 4th day of December AD 1812

LEONARD HURLBURT

The undersigned concur intirely with the above Recommendation given of Lieutenant Hinsdale by Col Hurlburt;

ELIPHAZ ALVORD

JOSEPH MILLER

SOLOMON ROCKWELL

PHINEHAS MINER

M^r Hinsdale lives in winchester

[Endorsed] Elizur Hinsdale for Capt. Infantry. Winchester.

RECOMMENDATION FOR MILITARY OFFICE

[2:26]

To His Honor Lieut. Gov. State Con^t

Sir We the undersigned being personally acquainted with Hosea Hinsdale of Winchester and we would assert that he is a Man of Good Character and a valuable Military Officer and we would request that he be appointed a Major or a Capt of the Cavalry now to be rais'd for the defence of this State And we would further reccommend & request that Moses Hayden of Barkhamsted be appointed a Major of Infantry

HORACE HIGLEY
JOSEPH MILLER
ALPHA ROCKWELL
SOLOMON ROCKWELL
BISSELL HINSDALE

[Endorsed] Recommendation of Hosea Hinsdale for Major or Captain and Moses Hayden for Major Inf^y

SETH P. STAPLES TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[2:27]

NEW HAVEN Dec 5th 1812

To His Honour John Cotton Smith Esq^r

Governor of Connecticut

Sir By your letter of the 2nd inst I am informed that the Governor & Council of this State have appointed me Major of Artillery in the "Military Corps" of this State.

Were not my family so entirely dependent on my personal exertions that a months sickness or absence would deprive them of bread I would accept the appointment. By misfortunes I have lost what property I had earned; & am poor; & must decline the appointment.

Accept, Sir, for yourself & the Honourable Council this expression of the high sense I entertain of the honor done me by their appointment.

I am your Honours

Most Ob^t & verry Hb Servt

SETH P STAPLES

[Superscribed] To His Honour JOHN COTTON SMITH Esq Gov^r
of Connecticut Sharon Conn^t

[Endorsed] Seth P. Staples Esquire declining the office of
Major.

EBENEZER HUNTINGTON TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[2:28]

NORWICH 6 Dec^r 1812

My dear sir

I intended to have consulted your intentions particularly respecting the uniform for the troops, to be raised for the state, apprehending that the subject might have some weight in determining the minds of the Commandants of Artillery & Cavalry in accepting their appointments. I hope the Commandants of the infantry regiments, will be induced to join me in wishing a round hatt for the Officers, as well as for the men, or to have a cocked hatt, with a crown, of the form of the English Cocked Hatt for the officers. Whatever Hatt may be adopted for the inlisted troops, will probably be eventually wished for by the Militia, & may be the leading cause of being rid of the *Chapeau de Bras*

May I ask to be informed to the acceptance of Commissions by the Col^{os} & Majors, who were appointed by the Council, whenever they shall notify your honor of their acceptance.

During my absence from home, an application was made from Plainfield, to have their association approved & orders issued to have them led to the choice of Officers. Finding they had misunderstood the law, in application to *me* in the first instance & also in not inclosing the association or a copy, I wrote them to inclose me their association, or a copy, & I would transmit the same to your Honor for approbation, which I hope to receive this Even^g & inclose, if not, I shall send it p mail.

I am with much respect

Yours very sincerely

EBEN: HUNTINGTON

His Honor Governour SMITH

[Superscribed] His Honour Governor SMITH Sharon

[Endorsed] Gen^l E. Huntington Dec^r 1812.

DAVID DEMING TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[2:29]

COLCHESTER Decb^r 7th 1812

Sir

Your communication of the 2nd ins^t, informing me of my appointment in the Military Corps of this State I have rec^d. It is my determination to accept the trust, the confidence reposed in me by your Honor & the gentlemen of the Council is duly appreciated

I have the honor to be your Obe^t
& very Humble Servant
DAVID DEMING

His Honor JOHN COTTON SMITH

[Superscribed] His Honor JOHN COTTON SMITH Sharon Con
Colchester Ct Decem^r 7th

[Endorsed] Major D. Deming's Letter of acceptance.

DANIEL PUTNAM TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[2:30]

BROOKLYN 7^h Dec^r 1812

Sir,

At the moment when I was about to leave Hartford, your Honor's letter of the 2^d Ins^t, announcing, that the Governour and Council had appointed me a colonel in the "Military Corps", was put into my hand.

Allow me Sir, to express my gratitude for this testimony of confidence; and to assure your Honor, that, in accepting the appointment, I am influenced more by a desire to promote the objects contemplated by the Law, than the hope of any personal gratification.

The knowledge which I ever had of military affairs was very limited, and acquired at so early an age, that after a lapse

of almost thirty five years, in which no manner of attention has been paid to the subject, the prospect of usefulness to the State, or of honor to myself in a military career commenced at *Fifty-three* cannot be very flattering. The attempt however shall be made, relying, that whenever my endeavours shall be found unsuccessful, the Governour & Council, by whose favour I have been brought into office, will, with like favour, grant me a discharge.

With great respect, I have the honor to be
Sir,

Your most Obedient,
and most humble Servant.

DAN^l PUTNAM

His Honor, Lieutenant Governour SMITH.

[Superscribed] His Honor LIEUTENANT GOVERNOUR SMITH

Commander in Chief &c, &c, Sharon. Pomfret Dec^r 9th

[Endorsed] Col. Dan^l Putnam's Letter of Acceptance

RECOMMENDATION OF NATHANIEL B. GAYLORD

[2:31]

The undersigned having been well acquainted with Nathaniel B Gaylord of Winchester beg leave to express to the Honorable Govenor & Council convened at Hartford to make appointments of military officers for the corps voted to be raised at the October Session of the legislature last past, that they entertain a high sense of the conduct worth and talents of Mr Gaylord and would be gratified if he should obtain the appointment of a Lieutenancy in the Corps about to be raised, apprehending that he would be a real ornament to the service

December 7th AD 1812

SOLOMON ROCKWELL

ALPHA ROCKWELL

THADDEUS GRISWOLD

WILLIAM BATTELL

JEREMIAH SPENCER

LYMAN WETMORE

NORMAN GRISWOLD

[Endorsed] Nath^l B. Gaylord Winchester for Lieut. infantry.

EBENEZER HUNTINGTON TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[2:32]

NORWICH 10th Dec^r 1812.*My dear sir*

The Last Even^g Mail furnished me with your letter, which authorised me to draw on the Q M Gen^l for some ammunition for the Post of N London, & I have this day written him to send as soon as may be to that place to the care of Major General Williams, One hundred round fixed cartridges for six pounders & ten thousand musket cartridges, which quantity, I thought as large as *prudence* would permit, till I would obtain information as to the place selected for deposit. Gen^l W has assured me he will receive & safe keep the same.

In respect to my acceptance of the command of the troops to be raised for this state; Having rec^d the notice of my appointment, which you verbally gave, & having replied I should accept the appointment, I did not wish or expect any written information on that subject. I shall *endeavor* to obtain some names of persons for company officers, to hand you when at Hartford the close of this month at which time, I will be prepared to furnish the names of Officers of the Volunteer companies who have been elected, & for whom, commissions are to issue. If your Honor will consent to issue the orders to the applicants for Volunteer Corps, it will be very gratifying to the applicants, & very much so to me. But you will excuse me in suggesting my wish that your minutes on the application or associations, may not only express your approbation & the date, & name of Officer to lead to a choice, but the date of the order also, which you may issue, Permit me to suggest, whether your order for wearing mourning for the death of the late Gov G, ought not to appear on the files of the Adj^t Gen^l, *both as it respects Gov S. as well as Gov^r G* such orders having been recorded heretofore. In conversation with Gen^l Williams & Gen^l Isham yesterday, both of whom I saw after receiving yours of the 5th. I found they entertained an idea that the men composing the militia, are of that unthinking & improvident class, that in case of sudden alarm, would be wholly unprovided with ammunition, excepting what they should draw from the pub-

lick. I am unwilling to believe these gentlemen correct, on that subject, but am induced to think, it may be the case in some few instances, but if it is true to the extent which they believe it, the whole number of musket cartridges ordered to be fixed (100000) would not be more than enough for N London & its vicinity. I am confident, that but very little defence will ever be made against an invading foe, if those, so eminently exposed as our sea ports, will not, after all the calls made on the men to be in constant readiness, furnish & *keep* furnished the twenty four rounds required by law, & which are so necessary for self defence. I own it safer to argue from what men are, than from what they ought to be. I wish to suggest for your consideration (till I see you at Hartford), an order or address to the troops or inhabitants of the sea port towns, on the subject of preparation for defence.

I am dear sir with respect & esteem,

Yours very sincerely

EBEN: HUNTINGTON

Lieu^t Governour SMITH

[Superscribed] Lieu^t Governour SMITH Sharon by Hartford
Mail Norwich Dec^r 11th 10

[Endorsed] Adj^t Gen^l Huntington 10 Dec^r 1812. de military
stores &c &c

SHUBAEL GRISWOLD TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[2:33]

EAST HARTFORD Dec^r 14th 1812.

Hon^d Sir

I take the liberty of stating to your Honour, that my Son Shubael F. Griswold, who resides in Hartford, has mentioned to me his desire to hold some office, in the Cavalry of the State Troops about to be organized. He is young and full of ambition, and I presume would take pride in doing his duty in whatever station required. Candidates for Office in this corps will, probably be numerous and, should your Honour, feel disposed to place him on the list of Candidates for the consideration of

the council it would be very gratifying to him, & pleasing to me.

A friend of mine, who lives in the Society of Winsted, in the town of Winchester has also stated to me, that some disaffected apostate Federalists in that place are endeavouring, there, to raise a volunteer corps and to offer their services to the President, and that mischeivous consequences, would probably follow, were a measure of that kind to be carried into effect, in that vicinity. With a view to counteract this, a plan has been set on foot there to raise a company of volunteers for the States service, and the Names of the Officers have been agreed on, amongst them, I observe the Name of Nathaniel B. Gaylord for Lieutenant, him I am well acquainted with, and from my knowledge of the Man, I think him well qualified, for almost any office he may be called to fill. I make this Statement to your honour from the information of my friend, & by his request.

I trust no particular apology, will be needed, for troubling you, on this Subject.

With Sentiments of high respect
& esteem, I am Your Obed^t
Hb^l Ser^t

SHUBAEL GRISWOLD

His Hon^r L^t Gov^r SMITH

[Superscribed] Hon. Lieu^t Governor SMITH Sharon Hartfd
C^t Dec 14

[Endorsed] Gen^l Shubael Griswold recommendation of Shub.
F. Griswold & Nath^l B. Gaylord

NATHANIEL TERRY TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[2:34]

HARTFORD Decem^r 14th 1812

His Honor Lieu^t Gov^r Smith

Sir

On the 2^d Instant I receiv'd from your Honor, a letter notifying my appointment to the command, of one of the Regiments of the Military Corps, to be raised by this State. I hope

my delaying untill this time to return an answer, will not be attributed to want of respect for your Honor, but to the true cause, the Indecission of my mind upon the subject. After much consideration, altho' I entertain many doubts, of my ability to discharge the duties of the office, in a suitable manner. I have determined to accept the appointment, and now declare to your Honor, my acceptance thereof accordingly. I am with sentiments of high and

sincere respect your Honors most
obed^t serv^t

NATH^l TERRY

[Superscribed] His Honor Lieu^t Governor SMITH Commander
in chief &c Sharon Con^t Mail paid 10

[Endorsed] Col. Nath^l Terry's Letter of Acceptance

PETITION FOR MATTROSS COMPANY

[2:35]

SAYBROOK December 14th 1812

Colⁿ Seth P. Staples Esq^r

S^r the undersigners beg leave to state to you that in their Opinion there might be raised in this place without reduceing the Militia Companys much if any below what the Law considers full Companys a respectable Mattrass Company that will be willing & dezirouse to volunteer their servicies in defence of this State agreeable to a Law passed by the Hon^l General Assembly in October last; & that said Company will be composed of young Gentlemen of Respectabillity and of such as are willing to uniform them selves & to devote their time & talents to their Cuntry & of such as will be Ambitious to do honour to there Cuntry to their superour Officers & to them selves. In the 4th Company 7th Regm^t there is more than 120 enroled there returns for several years have been about One Hundred able bodied Men & some years more the 5th Company is verry large & the 1st Company is supposed to be larger than an everadge threw the State, & a great number of exempts within the Limmets a number of whome it is understood are

willing to volunteer in such a Company, we would wish further to state that we are situate on the sea shore & on Connecticut River & that there is no Artillery Companys for more than thirty Miles to the west of this Town on the Sea Board. We hereby recommend to you the following Gentlemen to be the Commissioned Officers of said Company. Viz

George W. Jewett Esq^r for Captain

William C. Bull	}	for Lieu ^{ts} .
William Bull		
& Noah Walker		

& that you would use your influence with his Honour the Lieu^t Govenour & the Hon^{le} Counsel that the said Gentlemen may be Commissioned & that said Company may be raised & Organized According to Law & anexed to the Battallion of Artillery to be under your Command. All which is respectfully Submitted by your Obedient Servants

JOSEPH HILL Justice of Peace
& Select Man

JOHN AYER	}	Select Men
JARED SPENCER		
WM. SOUTHWORTH		
DAVID POST		

ELISHA SILL, Lieu^t Col^o Com^t
7th Reg^t

N. B. Geo W Jewett Esq^r
Timothy Pratt Jun
William C Bull
& William Bull

AARON HOVEY Chaplain of the
7th Reg^t

ELI DENISON Major of the 7th
Regiment

were recommended to the
Gov^r & Counsell M^r Pratt
has Declined an
Appointment

SAMUEL WILLIAMS Justis pece
JOHN BULL Justice of peace
AMBROSE WHITTELEY JUN^r
SAMUEL HART Jus^t Peace

[Superscribed] Col. SETH P STAPLES, Esq^r New Haven Say
Brook Dec^r 16 Paid 8

[Endorsed] Letter to Col. Staples from Jos. Hill Esq. &c de
artillery

TENDER OF SERVICE OF GRENADIER COMPANY

[2:36]

To his Honour John Cotton Smith L^t Governor and Commander in Chief of the Military Forces of the State of Connecticut. Whereas the Legislature of this State at their Session in October 1812 Passed an Act for raising a Corps in S^d State to Repel Invasion suppress Insurrection and enforce the Laws of the Union and did thereby Authorize your Honour to accept of Companies of Militia that would Voluntier their Services for the purposes aforesaid. Now we the Commissioned & Non Commissioned Officers, Musicians and Privates whose Names are hereunto annexed composing the cheif part of the Grenadier Company of the 25th Regiment of Militia in the State of Connecticut do Voluntarily tender our services to the State under your Honours direction agreeable to the provisions of the Act aforesaid.

Dated at NEW HARTFORD December 14th 1812

Witness our Hands

Segar Steel	Alvin Humphrey	Cap ^t
Marquis Richards	William Goodwin	Lieu ^t
Amasa Hinman	Joel Hitchcock	Ensign
Asahel Crow	Harry Cowles	Sergt ^s
Richard Lee	Elisha Case	
Wayne Bidwell	Pitts Goodwin	
George White	Ira Seymour	
Daniel Bandle	Abram Spencer	Corporals
Chauncey Richards	Erastus Case	
Milton Humphrey	Tertius Wadsworth	
Miles Marsh	Davis Deming	Music
Anson Driggs	Asa Andruss	
Asa Crane	Wyllys Marsh	
Whitehead Howd Jr	William Leet	
Uri Cook	Richard Lane	
Charles B Richards	Friend White Jr	
Israel Gross	Noah Steel	
Salmon Johnson	Harlow Mills	
Salmon Merrill	Nehemiah Andruss 3 ^d	
David Benjamin	Moses Clark	

John Root

Philo Hamlin
Pliney Brigham
Schuyler Holcomb
Joseph H McNary
Joseph Wells Jr
Thomas Wallen
Wyllys Webster
Alonson Spencer
Heber Wallin

To his Honour John Cotton Smith Lieu^t Governor and Commander in Chief of the Militia of the State of Connecticut

By the within Propositions and Signatures you have a Tender of the Services of the Officers and Soldiers of the Grenadier Company of the 25th Regiment of Infantry in the State. And We the Subscribers can conscientiously recommend the Officers of S^d Company as Men that sustain good Characters as Citizens and as Military and Active Officers Sincerely devoted to the Support of the Laws and Institutions of this State and the Constitution of the United States upon legitimate Principles and would in our Opinion do honour to the Corps about to be raised for the Defence of the State in the Capacity in which they have Volunteered their Services

ASHBEL SPENCER
MARTIN DRIGGS
THOMAS LEE
ROGER MILLS
Jⁿ^o MEIGS
W^m G. WILLIAMS
JOHN BROWN
CHAUNCY SEYMOUR
JOSEPH WELLS
THEODORE COWLES
JAMES HUMPHREYS
ARNOLD P HUMPHREYS
RIVERIUS BIDWELL
JASPER BIDWELL

[Endorsed] Capt. Alvin Humphrey N. Hartford Grenadier
Tender of Service

NOMINATIONS

[2:37]

Majors		L ^t Col.	Col.
N. H. J ^{no} Darling	F. Moss White	Martin Driggs	
N. H. W ^m Humphreys	N. H. Elihu Sanford	Nath ^l Terry	
L. Lucius Smith	F. Tim ^o Shephard	Dan ^l Putman	
L. J ^{no} Meigs	N. L. Nath ^l Howland	S. B. Sherwood	
W. John Fitch Esq.	L. Lucius Smith		
N. L. Eben ^r Perkins			
L. Moses Hayden			
T. Vashni Hall			
W. Asa Copeland	Artillery	Cavalry	
M. Ch ^s Churchill	N. H. L. P. Staples	N. L. David Deming	
T. Libbeus Tinker			
F. Henry Jessup			
H. Joel Clark (Granby)			
H. Benaj ^h H. Willcox (Simsbury)			
Endorsed] Nominations			

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO BENJAMIN TALLMADGE

[2:38]

SHARON 16 Dec^r 1812

Dear Sir.

At a late meeting of the Council of this State I suggested for their consideration the propriety of reminding the General Government that *our Militia have not received their proportion of arms, under the act of 1808*. The proposition met the entire assent of the gentlemen present; but we all thought it expedient previously to consult some of our delegation upon the subject. I perceive with great satisfaction that you have in a good measure anticipated my wishes by your resolution of the 7th instant requesting from the Secretary of war a statement of the manner in which the appropriation had been expended. As your motion was adopted by the House, a report may be soon expected, and I shall esteem it a favour to be furnished with a

copy of the document, when received. Any remarks which may occur to you on the proper mode of attaining our object will also be highly acceptable. With the warmest wishes for your health and happiness I am D^r Sir your friend and

ob^t Se^t J. C. SMITH

Hon. M^r. TALLMADGE

[Endorsed] Hon^{ble} B. Tallmadge de arms for militia. 16. Dec^r
1812 Copy

RECOMMENDATION OF JABEZ BUSWELL

[2:39]

CANTERBURY Dec^r 21. 1812

Hon C Goddard Esquire

Sir,

Jabez Buswell of this town a young man of good family and handsome property is wishing a place in the new Corps about to be raised, he is an active sprightly young man his age about two and twenty. if an Ensigns commission could be given him, we do think, and trust, that he will not dissappoint the confidence which would by that step be placed in him we are respectfully

Your Hum^l Ser^{ts}

LUTHER PAINE

R ADAMS

[Superscribed] Hon CALVIN GODDARD Esq^r Norwich

[Endorsed] L. Paine & R Adams Esqr Recommendation of
Jabez Buswell of Canterbury for an Ensigncy

RECOMMENDATION OF SAMUEL STRONG

[2:40]

*To his Honor John C. Smith Esq^r Lieut. Governor & Commander
in Chief in & over the State of Connecticut*

Sir

The subscribers being well acquainted with Capt Samuel Strong of Windsor in Hartford County, inform that he is a

PAPERS OF JOHN COTTON SMITH

gentleman of respectable talents and of a good moral character; that he now holds the Commission of Captain of a Company of infantry in the first Regiment of Militia in this State, having previously sustained the offices of Lieutenant & Ensign in the same Company. The duties of which successive offices he has discharged with great reputation. The Subscribers therefore very cheerfully recommend to your Honor Cap^t Strong as a suitable Person to be appointed to the office of Captain of Infantry in the Troops directed to be raised by an Act passed by the Hon. Gen^l Assembly of this State in October last.

WINDSOR Dec^r 23^d AD 1812.

MOSES TRYON J^r Gen^l 1 Brigade
Con Militia

OLIV^r MATHER

MARTIN ELLSWORTH Major 1 Reg^t Con^t Militia

JOHN SARGEANT

[Endorsed] Sam^l Strong of Windsor for Capt. Infantry.

PETITION FOR ARTILLERY

[2:41]

SAYBROOK December 24th 1812

Mathew Griswold Esq^r

Sir, Beg leave to State to your Honour, that a Statement has bin forwarded to Col. Seth P Staples that a Matros Company might be Inlisted out of the Militia and from Exemps in the Town of Saybrook of young Enterprising Men & from respectable families, who would do honour to the State their Country & their officers, without Reduceing the Militia Companies below what is Cosidered full Companies, allso Recom-binding a number of Gentlemen as Suitable Persons to be Commiss, to Raise & Command Said Company with a request that Col. Staples would use his Influence to accomplish the Contemplated object. it was also Stated that we are Situated on the Sound & on Connecticut River, that there is no artillery

Company for more than thirty Miles west from this Place. the following Gentlemen were recommended for Commissions,

George W Jowett	Cap ^t
William C Bull	} Lieut ^s
William Bull	
Noah Walker	

N.B. Timothy Pratt J^{ur}, has uppon further Consideration Requested that Some other Person Might be recommended in his Place.

The recommendation &^c forwarded to Col. Staples was Sined By the hereafter named Gentlemen.

Elisha Sill	Lieut Col. Com ^t
	7 th Reg ^t Millits
Eli Denison	Major 7 th Reg ^t
Aaron Hovey	Chaplin 7 th Reg ^t
Samuel Hart	} Justeses of the Peace
Samuel Williams	
John Bull	
Joseph Hill	Justis of the Peace & Select Man
John Ayer	} Select Men
David Post	
Jared Spencer	
William Southworth	
Cap ^t Ambrose Whittlesey	

N B I find that the People here generally feel much Ingaged in Promoting the Raising Such a Company & it is Expected that a number of Exempts will vollonteer ther Servisses in Said Com^p if Granted.

I am Sir your Most Obed^t Serv^t

MATHEW GRISWOULD Esq^r

ELISHA SILL

[Superscribed] MATHEW GRISWOULD Esq^r Lyme

[Endorsed] Saybrook applications for Artillery.

RECOMMENDATION FOR OFFICES

[2:42]

FAIRFIELD December 25 1812.

Respected Sir

In consequence of conversation I had with some of the Gentlemen of the Council when at Hartford on the 2^d of December int regarding the organization of the Military Corps to be raised in this State. I take the liberty to recommend to your Honor Timothy Shepard Esq^r of Newtown for the office of Lieu^t Co^l under Co^l Terry. As to his merits He is a man of Integrity, honourable and Gentlemanly in his intercourse with mankind A Man of sence, determined and persevering in the execution of business. In the prime of life. Active. And not deficient in those particular Military accomplishments requisit to an honorable discharge of the duties of the office.

I also take the liberty to recommend William Henry Jesup of this place for the office of second Major He is about 21 years old with some experience in the Military department, He is Quarter Master in the Militia, has been educated a Merchant, appears well when on duty, very Ambitious, a Gentleman of handsome deportment, Intelligence and I believe courage. He is an active and good officer, his Father wealthy, and will do every thing necessary to enable him to execute the office with reputation. Permit me also to name Sam^l Jackson of this place for the office of Lieu^t. He is an Ensign in the Militia about 23 years old, active and in all respects as well qualified to execute that office as any man of his age and experience The aforesaid Gentlemen will accept the offices I have named and I trust faithfully execute the same when thereto appointed. Please Sir to pardon this interfearence and accept my best wishes for your welfare I am with due respect yours SAM^l B SHERWOOD
I also state to your Honor that William Noyes Son of the Revd John Noyes of Weston will accept of the office of Ensign He is a Likely young Man and will execute the office with honor and reputation

S B SHERWOOD

[Superscribed] To The Honorable JOHN C SMITH at Hartford
Saugatuck 26 Decemb^r 10

The Post Master at Hartford is requested to deliver this to M^r N Terry as soon as may be.

[Endorsed] Sam^l B. Sherwood Esq^r recommendation of
T. Shephard for Lieut. Col.
Sam^l Jackson for Lieut.
Will. Noyes Ensign

RECOMMENDATION OF COL. TIMOTHY SHEPARD

[2:43]

NEWTOWN Dec^r 26th AD 1812

Sir

I had the honour of receiving, your favor of the 12th Ins^t, requesting my assistance in making a selection in this County, of proper Candidates, for the offices of Captain and Subalterns, in the *military Corps*, & to communicate the Same &c. Pursuant to your request, I immediately, on the receipt of your letter, gave my attention to the subject, but have to regret, that from the local situation of the Regim^t which, I have the honor to command, I am not possess^d of all that information, which I should wish to communicate, & which your Honor will probably expect to receive.

The truth is that my acquaintance, with military Gentlemen, suitable to fill the offices named is almost entirely confined, within the limits of my own Regim^t which is the only one in the 8th Brigade, that belongs to this County; and is confined to the Towns of Newtown, Danbury, Brookfield, Newfairfield, and part of Ridgfield. Your Honor, will therefore not impute to me any want of *zeal* for the service if I confine my self to the following nomination to wit Abijah B Curtis for Captain and Joseph Tousey for first Lieu^t both of Newtown. These Gentlemen have formerly holden with good reputation, the Same rank in the militia, the former is about forty, and the latter about thirty two years of age. They are both men of property, and influence, and have always supported the character of integrity & *firmness*. They are both *strongly* attached to the Government & *institutions* of Connecticut, and

PAPERS OF JOHN COTTON SMITH

will I am convinced, on all occasions do their duty As they are now exempts they will be no small acquisition to the Service.

In the Town of Danbury I would name James Clark Cook (Son to Dan^l B Cook Esq^r) for Second Lieu^t, and Elisha Whittlesey (son of Elisha Whittlesey Deceas^d) for Ensign, These young Gentlemen have rec^d public education are persons of good reputation and bid fair to make excellent officers. Gentlemen in Danbury have expressed a wish, that there should be appointed to the offices of first & second Lieu^{ts}, but I cannot help giving it as my opinion, that M^r Tousey whom I have named for the office of first Lieu^t has from age, & military experience, a higher Claim to that office than either of those Gentlemen. On tuesday next the Superior Court sits at Fairfield when I shall meet the Gentlemen of the bar of this County I shall converse with them on the Subject, and should I obtain sufficient information, I shall forward to your Honour at Hartford a further sition unless I should find the subject had been attended to by some person in that part of the County.

I am Sir with sentiments of respect
Your Honours Obedient and
humble serv^t
TIM^o SHEPARD

Gov^r SMITH

[Superscribed] Hon. JOHN C SMITH Esqr now at Hartford Conn.

[Endorsed] Col. Tim^o Shephard. recommendation of candidates.

CALVIN GODDARD TO JOHN COTTON SMITH
[2:44]

NORWICH Dec^r 28. 1812

His Honour John C. Smith.

Dear sir,

Several maladies with which I am afflicted tho not, I hope, of a very serious nature, will prevent my attending at the

Council board tomorrow. I would try to overcome all but one which now compels me to write with a single Eye. My *right* one is too much inflamed to render it safe for me to go out. As Genl Huntington will be at Hartford information from me from this County will become less necessary.

From Windham I presume a communication will be made from Col Putnam if he should attend personally. It has been mentioned to me that Cap^t George Middleton of Plainfield would volunteer his own services & those of the Company by him commanded. It is not large but is composed of promising young men & he is a very good officer. I forward a letter from Luther Paine & R Adams Esqrs recommending Jabez Buswell for an Ensigny. He is of Canterbury & I have confidence in those who recommend him but do not know the young man. Ebenezer Grosvenor of Pomfret has been mentioned as a Lieutenant. I do know, & think very well of him. It would in my view be very desirable to have him appointed. A son of Col Thomas Grosvenor has also been mentioned for an office in the Cavalry but Mr Backus I presume will write respecting him & Grosvenor. Asa Copeland of Pomfret whom I mentioned at the last meeting of Council I am told will accept a Captaincy & I think him well qualified — James Baker of Windham will take an Ensigny & I think very well of him. He is an active, sprightly young man. His friends think he ought to be Lieutenant., Smith of Windham has also been mentioned to me, but his first name & qualifications will be mentioned I presume from another quarter. Of Maj^r Fitch I can add nothing more than is already known to your Honour & the Council In Tolland County Major Smith has been mentioned for a Majority. I think well of him Joseph Talcot Jr of Coventry for a Captaincy Elijah Chapman Jr of Tolland for a Lieutenantcy & Jabez Kingsbury Jr of Hebron Andover Society for an Ensigny But as I derived most of my information from Col Edgerton who will I presume be at Hartford & will furnish satisfactory documents in favour of Candidates in that quarter I forbear to add as it p(ains) my Eye to write. I very much regret my inability to add my assistance feeble as it is to the

Council on this subject but I should hazard too much to attempt it.

With sentiments of the highest respect &
esteem I am your Honours

Obd^t Serv^t

C. GODDARD

P S. Col Howland I still think would make a good Lt Col.

[Superscribed] His Honour JOHN C. SMITH Hartford

[Endorsed] Hon^{ble} M^r Goddard recommendation of candidates &c

WILLIAM PERKINS TO CALVIN GODDARD

[2:45]

ASHFORD Dec^r 28 1812

D^r S^r

When we were at Tolland I mentioned to you a M^r Rufus Burnham of this town as a fit person to hold a commission in the Squadron of horse about to be raised in this state; and intended to have given you a line concerning him.

He is a young man about twenty seven years of age, of a fair good character and from his manners and mode of conducting his own business I should judge him a fit person to hold a commission in and even command a troop of horse. three or four years since he returned to Ashford from Boston and introduced into the company to which he belongs the exercise of the broad-sword according to the modern plan. he spent much time in this and the neighbouring towns in instructing the troop, to the satisfaction of the officers and men as I am informed. he now holds a cornetts commission in the 1st troop 5th regiment

I have known M^r Burnham from the cradle. And can most cheerfully recommend him to the consideration of the commander in chief and the hon^{bl} council as a suitable person to hold the office of Leu^t or Cap^t in a troop of horse

I write, sir, in consequence of what you suggested to me

and the desire I have to do what I can in promoting this business.

I am, sir, very respectfully your obedient hb^l Servt

W^m PERKINS

Honb^l CALVIN GODDARD

[Superscribed] Honb^l CALVIN GODDARD or THEODORE DWIGHT
Hartford

[Endorsed] William Perkins letter recommending candidates
for Cavalry

RECOMMENDATION OF EDWARD SELDEN JR.

[2:46]

Edward Selden Jr of Windsor, a Young Gentleman of Education solicits a Lieutenantcy in the Infantry. We are of opinion that he posses the qualifications requisit to enable him to discharge the duties of that office in a manner Beneficial to the State and honorable to himself. And we do not hesitate to say that as to his moral character and Stability, he stands as fair as any young man.

WINDSOR December 28th 1812

HENRY A ROWLAND

MARTIN ELLSWORTH Major 1 Reg^t Con^t Militia

ROGER NEWBERRY

OLIV^r MATHER

[Endorsed] Edward Selden J^r recommendation for Lieut. infantry

VOLUNTEERS FROM CHATHAM

[2:47]

Agreeable to an Act of the Legislature of the State of Connecticut holden at New Haven and passed October A D 1812, Entitled an act, to establish a military Corps for the defence of this State to serve during the present *war* unless sooner discharged by Law.

PAPERS OF JOHN COTTON SMITH

We the Subscribers belonging to the Sixth Company of Cavalry, which is annexed to the Seventh Brigade of Militia of the State of Connecticut do tender our services as Volunteers for the defence of this State agreeable to the true intent and meaning of said Act. Witness our hands at Chatham State of Connecticut December 28, 1812.

DANIEL SHEPHERD JUN	DAVID BUELL	} Cap ^t Command- ing 1 ^d Com ^y
GIBBON P MATHER	ELEAZER VEAZEY J ^r	
ABNER HALL		} first Lieu ^t
SMITH GRIFFITH		
JABEZ S BRAINERD	CHAUNCEY CLARKE	} Second Lieu Cornet
ELIJAH CLARKE 3 ^d		
ANSON STRONG	SELDON COOKE	
	LAZARUS WATROUS	
	ALVAN COOK	
	CHARLES HURD	

[Endorsed] Chatham Troop. tender of Services. Not accepted.

RECOMMENDATION BY ELISHA STEARNS

[2:48]

For the appointment of 1st Lieut of Infantry I would recommend Elijah Chapman Jun of Tolland at present an Ensign of L^t Infantry. He is about twenty three years of age, of middle stature, very active, intelligent and capable, of better than common education and has a singular taste & disposition for the Military service & of fair moral character

For the appointment of 2^d Lieut. of Horse, Harry Cogswell of Tolland, who at present holds the same office in the Militia. He is about twenty three or four years of age, of middle stature and is a sprightly active intelligent young man, of a good common education and sustains a fair moral character and a promising character as an officer.

HARTFORD Dec 30 1812

E STEARNS

[Endorsed] Elijah Chapman J^r Subaltern.

Harry Cogshall D^o in Cavalry

RECOMMENDATION BY STEARNS AND EDGERTON

[2:50]¹

The subscribers would recommend Joseph Talcot Jun. of Coventry for the appointment Capt in the corps to be raised by this State and Jabez Kingsbury of Coventry for Ensign in the same corps. They are active capable and military men in the prime of life and sustain fair moral characters

Hartford Dec 30 1812

ELISHA EDGERTON

ELISHA STEARNS

HARTFORD Dec 30 1812

Jabez Kingsbury Sub. recommendation

REPRESENTATION FROM DERBY

[2:51]

To the Lieu^t General of the State of Connecticut

Sir

By the papers herewith transmitted it will be seen that an effort to ascertain the practicability of enlisting a Company of Artillery in this town and its vicinity to form a part of the Corps authorised to be raised for the defence of this State by an act of the General Assembly of October last has been successfull. Although the number of Volunteers is not as yet equal to that required by the aforesaid act for a full company, yet from the avidity with which these have come forward and from their number in proportion to that required, it being thirtyseven, no doubt can exist that the requisite number will be speedily made up. Those who have already Volunteered are mostly young men and a minor proportion of them only from the Militia.

I think your Honor and the Honorable Council will be

¹Document [2:49] is printed broadside, "General Orders, Head Quarters, Hartford, December 31, 1812.

therefore satisfied that the establishment of this Company here, will do little, or no injury to the presant Militia Companies. I have been desired by most of the volunteers whose names are on the paper accompanying this to make this application to your Honor, and, if it should be thought consistant with the public policy, that a company of this discription should be located here, to request the necessary authority to take the command of it. It is proposed that John L Tomlinson be first Lieut Truman Coe second Lieu^t & Lyman Smith Jun^r third Lieu^t in s^d Company

I am with great respect
your Honors most obed^t
and faithfull Serv^t
ROBERT GATES

I will accept the place of First Lieutenant in the above mentioned company if commissioned

J L TOMLINSON

I will accep^t the place of Second Lieutenant in the above mentioned company if commissioned

I will accep^t the place of third Lieutenant in the above mentioned company if commissioned

LYMAN SMITH JUN^r

[Superscribed] JOHN C. SMITH Esq^r Lieu^t General of the State
of Connecticut Hartford

[Endorsed] Representation from Derby de artillery.

VOLUNTEERS AND RECOMMENDATION FROM DERBY

[2:52]

We whose names are undersigned will enlist into a company of Artillery to be formed in Derby and its Vicinity to be under the³ control and at the disposal of his Excellency the Cap^t General of the State of Connecticut and agree that his Excellency by and with the advice of his Council may nominate and commission Officers out of our own number for s^d Company

COLLECTIONS OF THE CONNECTICUT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

DERBY December 3^d 1812

Names	Names
John L Tomlinson	Robert Gates
Richard Mansfield	Lewis Chatfield
Eugene Olmsted	Isaac White
Truman Coe	Eliphlet Baldwin
Lyman Smith Jun ^r	Nehemiah Turrel
Uriel Gates	Bezaleel Gates
Simon Tomlinson	Curtiss Johnson
Silas Newcomb	Jabez C Thompson
David Nettleton	Sam ^l Short
David Bassett Jun ^r	Cyrus Holbrook
John Bassett	Miles Warren
Waterman Ells	Bela Morriss
Hewlet Smith	Josiah Moulthrop
George Willcoxon	David Baldwin
Abel Holbrook	Ransom Tomlinson
Henry A Smith	Levi Hotchkiss
Guy Blackman	Talmadge Beardslee
Isaac Lum	Reuben Lum
	W ^m Lum

[2:53]

A number of Gentlemen in the Town of Derby and its vicinity having volunteered for the purpose of forming a company of Artillery for the Defence of the State of Connecticut and having proposed Robert Gates Captain John L Tomlinson First Lieutenant, Truman Coe Second Lieutenant & Lyman Smith Jun^r Third Lieutenant in said Company We deem each of those Gentlemen well qualified for the said Appointments

DERBY Decem^r 28th 1812

CANFIELD GILLET
NATHAN WHEELER
SAM^l I. ANDREWS
JAMES LEWIS
SHELDON C CURTISS
JOSIAH DUDLEY

CONTRACT FOR SUPPLIES

[2:54]¹

* * * * *

second. That the ration to be furnished & delivered by virtue of this Contract, shall consist of the following articles. Viz. One pound & a quater of beef, or three quaters of a pound of salted pork; eighteen ounces of bread or flour; one gill of rum, whiskey or brandy; and at the rate of two quarts of salt, four quarts of vinegar, four pounds of soap, and one pound & an half of candles, to every hundred rations.

It is understood, that it shall be at the option of the General, or officer commanding an army or a great Military district, in all cases not otherwise provided for by this Contract to direct, when & how often fresh or salted meat shall be issued by general orders, to be promulgated a reasonable time before the issue is to commence; that in all cases, where salted provisions are issued, the article of salt shall not be required; that the contractor shall always issue flour two days in every week, & the option of bread or flour the remainder of the week be with the contractor.

Third. That supplies shall be furnished by the said James Byers, his heirs, executors or administrators at the fortified places & military posts, that are or may be established in the limits aforesaid, upon the requisition of the commandant of the army or post, in such quantities as shall not exceed what is sufficient for the troops to be there stationed, for the space of three months in advance, in good & wholesome provisions, consisting of due proportions of all the articles forming the ration.

It is understood that if the contractors shall be afterwards required to move them, to be delivered at another place or post, the expenses of transportation to such other place or post shall be borne by the United States. It is also understood that all supplies are to be originally delivered at the posts where they may be required, without expense to the United States.

fourth, that whenever and as often as the provisions stipulated to be furnished under this contract, shall, in the opinion

of the commanding officer of the post or place, where they are offered to be issued, be unsound, unfit for use, or of an unmerchantable quality, a survey shall be held thereon, by two disinterested persons, one to be chosen by the commanding officer, and the other by the said James Byers or his agent, and in case of disagreement, a third person to be chosen by mutual consent, who shall have power to condemn such part of the provisions as to them may appear unfit for use, but if the said James Byers or his agent, shall fail, or neglect to appoint such persons as he may think proper, to inspect the provisions, under oath, with power to condemn, as aforesaid, — and all provisions condemned by such survey or inspection, may be destroyed by the commanding officer.

fifth, that the commanding General, or person appointed by him, at each post or place, in case of absolute failure, or deficiency, in the quantity of provisions contracted to be delivered and issued, shall have power to supply the deficiency by purchase, at the risk and on account of the said James Byers, his heirs executors or administrators

[Endorsed] Contract for Supplies &c Extract

CHAUNCEY WHITTELSEY TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[2:56]¹

MIDDLETOWN January 1st 1813

Sir

Your Honors letter of the 30th U^o informing me of my appointment to the Rank of Major in the 2^d Regiment of Infantry in the Military Corps of this State was rec^d last Evening. I accept the trust & assure your Honor that so flattering a proof of your Confidence, will command my best exertions in the performance of its duties.

I am with great respect

Your Honors most Obedient

Humble Servant

CHAUNCEY WHITTELSEY

His Honor JOHN COTTON SMITH Esquire

¹The printed form of this contract, Document [2:91] is not included in this volume.

[Superscribed] His Honor JOHN COTTON SMITH Esq^r Sharon
[Endorsed] Major Ch^y Whittelsey's letter of acceptance.

MARTIN ELLSWORTH TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[2:57]

WINDSOR Jan^y 4th 1813

Sir

Your Letter of the 30th of Dec^m last was duly rec^d I feel myself much honor^d by the Appointment, your Excellency and the Council have tho't proper to bestow upon me.

The trust I shall be pleased to accept, and have only to regrett my want of abilities to discharge the duties of the Office

I am with sentiments of respect
your Obedient & Humb^{le} Serv^t

MARTIN ELLSWORTH

His Hon^r JOHN COTTON SMITH

[Superscribed] His Hon^r JOHN COTTON SMITH Esq^r Lieu^t
Governor Sharon

[Endorsed] Major M. Ellsworth's letter of Acceptance

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO NATHANIEL TERRY

[2:58]

SHARON 4, Jan^y 1813.

Dear Sir,

It is my wish and the expectation of the Council that the Field officers of infantry in the Military Corps, particularly the Colonels, Should endeavour to prepare by our next meeting a selection of proper candidates for company appointments. I intended to have delivered to you and Col. Putnam a list of the applications made to me, but amidst a variety of concerns it was unfortunately omitted. The names are Subjoined. The recommendations are ample and principally from the most respectable quarters. You will be pleased to make such in-

¹Document 2:55 is a commission as Second Lieutenant to Truman Coe, January 1, 1813.

quiries as you may deem expedient. If location as well as the requisite qualities in these candidates will justify it, their Seasonable application would seem to give them the preference to others of equal merit.

I am D^r Sir very respectfully
your obedient Servant
J. C. SMITH

COL. TERRY

Sam H. Woodruff	Captain	Southington	
Will. G. Williams	Esq. D ^o	N. Hartford	
Lemuel Hurlbut	Capt.	} Winchester	
Nath ^l B Gaylord	Lieut.		
Joel Hitchcock	D ^o		
Erastus Merrills	Ensign		
Elizur Hinsdale	Capt.		
John Butler	Capt.	Durham	
Joseph Tuttle	J ^r . Lieut.	D ^o	
Lem ^l A. Storrs	1 Lieut.	Middletown	
Erastus Lyman	Capt.	Goshen	
Joseph H. Bellamy	Capt.	} Bethlem	
Nathan Burton	Capt.		
Samuel Waugh	Capt.	} Litchfield	
William Beebe	Capt.		
Sam ^l Buel	Lieut.		
Silas Beckley	Subaltern		Warren
Benajah H. Willcox	Capt.	Simsbury	
Moses Haydon	Capt.	Barkhamsted	
Walter Thrall	Capt.	Granby	
Samuel Strong	Capt.	} Windsor	
Edward Selden	J ^r Lieut		
Guy Bigelow	Capt.	Colchester	
Francis Ashur Perkins	Capt.	} Norwich recommended by Brigadier General	
Elisha Abel	1 Lieut		
Robert Coit (N. London)	2 Lieut		
Joseph Huntington	J ^r ensign		
Jedidiah Tracy	Subaltern	Norwich	

PAPERS OF JOHN COTTON SMITH

Asa Copeland Capt.	}	Pomfret. recommended by Col. Putnam		
Eben ^r Grovesnor 1 Lieut.				
Benj ⁿ Bradford 2 D ^o				
Jonathan Copeland J ^r Ensign				
Joseph Talcott J ^r Capt. Coventry				
Elijah Chapman J ^r 1 Lieut. Tolland				
Jabez Kingsbury J ^r Ensign Hebron				
Samuel Jackson Subaltern Fairfield				
William Noyes D ^o Weston				
Jabez Buswell D ^o Canterbury				
Reuben Fuller J ^r D ^o Simsbury				
Abijah B. Curtice Capt.	}	}		
Joseph Tousey 1 Lieut.			Newton	recom ^d by Lieut Col Shephard
James C. Cook 2 Lieut.			Danbury	
Elisha Whittlesey Ensign				
James Barber Subaltern	}	Windham		
David Augustus Smith D ^o				
James Baker D ^o				

[Endorsed] Letter to Col. Terry with list of Applicants.

[Copy]

JONAH GATES TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[2:59]

EAST HADDAM Jenuary 6th A D 1813

Sur there Being Sum uneazy feelings among the officers of the 24 Reg^t on the account of Cornal John Isham of Colchester Deciding the rank Differrant from the usual practice of this reg^t I wish you to Deside the Bisness By Giveing your uppinyon on the Subject. the Case is as follows viz the practice has Ben in this reg^t that the offercers took rank when there was two or more of a Date they referd Back to there former Commissions and the one that was the oldest Lieutenant took the rank of those of the Same Date as Capt But Cor Isham has ordered them to Cast Lots for the rank which makes hard feelings it has So happened that Capt Crowell who has always Commanded Capt Palmer and Capt Prat now is Commanded By them which wounds his feelings very much Cap^t Crowell

was Lieutenant when the orther two was Sarjants and is a much older man then ither of them he Being a Good offercer if there Can be any releas given him it would Be gratifying to him and to me and make the Bisness more eazy. I have taken the opinyon of two Bigedear Gen^{ls} on the Subject and there uppinyens was very Differant one Ses that there is no orther way But to Cast Lots the orther Ses that his uppinyen is not Correct that it is a mistaken idea that the melitia is founded on the principles of war and that the rules and articles * [

] guide and that in the Last war under Gen * [

] was the practice to refer Back to there former

* [] * [] and those that was the olddist

Leu^t took the rank * [] the there Cap^t Commis-
sions were Both of on Date this Being a question among hier
offerchers Is the reson why I troble you with it thinking that
your Desistion on the Subject will Give Satisfaction on Both
Sids I wish you to Send me your uppinyon in a letter Directted
to me that the Bisness may Be Settled with out any further
trouble

JONAH GATES first

Major of the 24 Reg^t

Honor JOHN COTTON SMITH Esq^r

Lieut General and Commander in

Cheaf of the State of Connecticut

[Superscribed] The Hon^e JOHN COTTON SMITH Esq^{rs} Sharon
Cont E^t Haddam C^t 8 Jany 1813 10

[Endorsed] Major Jon^h Gates of 24 Reg^t concerning the rank
of Capt. Crowell. Rec^d 14. Jan^y 1813.

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO DANIEL STERLING

[2:60]

SHARON 8 Jan^y 1813.

Sir

The United States having an armed force within the limits
of this state commaned by an officer of rank, stationed for ths
express purpose of watching the movements of the Britieh
Squadron in our waters, I conceive that any kind of intercourse

*Missing.

PAPERS OF JOHN COTTON SMITH

between our citizens and the Squadron ought to be Sanctioned either by that officer or by the National government itself. Consequently it cannot be proper for the Executive of the State to grant flags of truce under such circumstances.

I accordingly avail myself of the earliest mail to return the protest you enclosed to me, and advise you to make application to Brigadier General Burbeck at New London. I have only to express my regret at the delay to which you are thus unavoidably subjected, and am Sir respectfully your obedient and
humble servant

JOHN COTTON SMITH

Capt STERLING

[Endorsed] to Capt. DAN¹ STERLING [Copy]

LUCIUS SMITH TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[2:61]

LITCHFIELD 9th Jan^y 1813

Sir,

Your letter under date 30th Dec^r 1812 has been duly received in which you are pleased to inform me, that you have thought proper to appoint me a Major in first Reg^t of Infantry in the "Military Corps" of this State, I am truly gratified by this distinguished proff of your Honors confidence in me as an officer, & have only to remark that my services are at your command

I am with sentiments of
entire respect your Honors
Most Ob^t & very Humble
Serv^t

LUCIUS SMITH

HisHonor JOHN COTTON SMITH

[Superscribed] His Honor JOHN C. SMITH Esq^r Sharon Conn^t
Litchfield Jan^y 13 8

[Endorsed] Major Lucius Smith's Acceptance. Rec^d 14. Jan^y
1813.

TIMOTHY SHEPARD TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[2:62]

NEWTOWN Jan^y 9th AD 1813

Sir

I was honour'd with the receipt of your favor of the 30th of December dated at Hartford by the hand of M^r Daggatt, informing me, that by & with the advice & consent of the Council you had tho^t proper to appoint me Lieutenant Colonel of the first Regiment of Infantry in the "Military Corps" of this State & wishing my acceptance of the trust. In answer I would beg leave to remark, that, important personal considerations, have opposed themselves to my acceptance of the trust; But when I consider what, in common, with my fellow citizens I owe to my *native State* & Country, Combined with the object of the Service I am induced most cheerfully to express to your Honour my acceptance of the appointment

I am Sir with high

Consideration your

Honours Obedient and
humble Serv^t

TIM^o SHEPARD

Gov^r SMITH

[Superscribed] Gov^r SMITH Sharon, Conn^t New Town 11th
Jan^y 1813

[Endorsed] L^t Col. Shephard's Acceptance

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO DAVID HUMPHREYS

[2:63]

SHARON 9. Jan^{ry} 1813.

Dear Sir.

Your favour of the 15th ultimo was duly received. The proposition to raise a troop of horse at Humphreysville has been cheerfully accepted, and by the advice & consent of the Council I have appointed and commissioned the gentlemen recommended in your letter to the offices annexed to their respective names. The first troop in the 7th Regiment of Cav-

alry unanimously tendered their Services at the first meeting of the Council; and being a very fine body of horse were made part of the Corps. Their former standing entitled them to the rank of the first troop in the Squadron. I have made Capt Humphreys's troop the Second; and I sincerely wish it was in my power consistently with the good of the service to confer upon them the distinction they desire. But on consultation with the Major Commandant as well as with the Council upon this particular point I am satisfied that a distinct appellation and uniform would be regarded with jealousy invidiously and consequently could not fail to produce injurious effects. That they will obtain an honourable distinction by their discipline and if occasion should require, by their valour I have not the smallest doubt.

A number of individuals in Derby have at their solicitation been formed into a company of artillery for the Military Corps, and the gentlemen designated by them for their officers are appointed & commissioned. Thus within a few miles around Humphreyville we see formed & forming besides the ordinary militia a company of volunteers, a troop of dragoons and a company of artillery. an exhibition of patriotic zeal without a parallel perhaps in this or any other country

The Nation are indebted to you Sir for a long series of eminent public services but I cannot refrain from expressing my particular acknowledgements for your active & highly useful efforts to promote the interest of y^r native state at this important crisis of her affairs.

With sentiments of the highest respect
& esteem I have the honour to be
Sir your ob^t & very Hum Ser^t

Hon^{ble} D. HUMPHREYS [Copy]

[2:64]

Applicants

Infantry.

Capt. Nathan Burton (Bethlem)

Captains

Sam^l H. Woodruff Southington

W. G. Williams N. Hartford

Sereno Pettibone Esq^r
 Lemuel Hurlbut.
 John Butler Durham
 Ch. Colt
 Erastus Lyman (Goshen)
 Jos. H. Bellamy Bethlem
 Sam^l Waugh Litchfield
 W^m Beebe
 Benth H. Willcox }
 Major or Captain } Simsbury
 Moses Hayden Bark^d L. C^o
 Walter Thrall Granby
 Samuel Strong Windsor
 Elizur Hinsdale Winchester
 Guy Bigelow Colchester
 Francis Ashur Perkins Norwich
 Asa Copeland Pomfret
 Jos^h Talcott J^r Coventry Capt.
 Jabez Kingsbury D^o Ensign

Subalterns

Jabez Ripley Hartford
 James Barber }
 David Augustus Smith } Windham
 Silas Beckley Warren
 Joel Hitchcock }
 Erastus Merrills } Colebrook, or Winchester or
 John Barber J^r Canton Barkhamstead
 Joseph Tuttle J^r Durham
 W^m M^cNary N. Hartford
 Sam^l Buel Litchfield
 Nath^l B. Gaylord Winchester
 Edward Selden J^r Windsor
 Sam^l Jackson Fairfield
 William Noyes (Weston)

Elisha Abel 1 Lieut.
 Jedidiah Tracy Norwich or artillery
 Robert Coit N. London

PAPERS OF JOHN COTTON SMITH

Jos. Huntington J^r Norwich (Ensign)
 Eben^r Grovesnor 1 Lieut }
 Benja Bradford 2 Lieut }
 Jon^a Copeland J^r Ensign }
 Elijah Chapman J^r Tolland 1 Lieut.

Artillery

Captains

Amaziah Bray Esq^r Killingworth
 Geo. W. Jewett Saybrook
 C. Colt
 Chauncey Whittlesey

Symsbery

Sereno Pettibone Cap^t
 Benajah H. Willcox Liut.

Subalterns

Linus Parmelee Esq^r } Killingworth
 Reuben Kelcey } &c &c &c
 Ely Augustus Elliott }
 Selden Huntington
 Tim^o Pratt J^r Saybrook
 W^m C. Bull D^o
 W^m Bull D^o
 Reuben Fuller J^r (Simsbury)

Cavalry

Major or Captain

Hosea Hinsdale Winchester
 Jared Scarborough Hartford
 Christo. Colt D^o
 Shubael F. Griswold D^o some office
 William Humphreys Humphreysville Capt.
 Jos^h Clark Oxford Lieut.
 Hez. Clark Middlebury Lieut.
 Sylvester Higgins Woodbridge Cornet.
 Jabez Ripley Hartford Liut^y

Thomas Hubbard	Middletown	Capt	} Recommended by Major Deming
W ^m Trowbridge	1 Lieut.		
Alfred Churchill	2 Lieut.		
Ralph Hall	Cornet		

Field Officers

Lt Cols	Majors
Timothy Shephard	Lucius Smith Litchfield
Elihu Sanford	John Darling N. Haven
Lucius Smith	W ^m Humphreys Derby
Moss White	John Meigs Litchfield C ^o
Nath ^l Howland	John Fitch Esq ^r Windham C ^o
	Eben ^r Perkins N. London C ^o
	Moses Hayden Litchfield C ^o
	Vashni Hall Tolland C ^o
	Asa Copeland Windham C ^o
	Charles Churchill Middlesex C ^o
	Libbeus Tinker Tolland C ^o
	Henry Jessup Fairfield C ^o
	Joel Clark Hartford C ^o
	Benaj ^h H. Wilcox Simsbury
	Elijah Smith Tolland

Benajah H. Willcox had claims to be appointed in the artillery now requests a captaincy in the infantry.

Infantry 2nd Reg^t

John Butler Durham Capt.
 Lem^l Gustavus Storrs Middletown 1 Lieut.
 Joseph Tuttle J^r Durham 2 Lieut
 Arnold H. Hayden Haddam Ensign.

Brainerd Carrier.

Francis Tracy	Washington	Jared Scarborough
	N. Preston Soc ^y	Christ ^o Colt
	Subaltern	S. F. Griswold

named by his father Silas Gray

13 Jan^y 1813

[Endorsed] Applicants

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO A. WHITTLESEY

[2:65]

SHARON 13. Jan^y 1813

Gentlemen

Your letter of the 4th instant postmarked 10th is received.

I freely consent that one of the brass field pieces in the charge of Capt. Jewett shall be brought into your vicinity and placed under the care of Lieut. Walker, and I now address a letter to Capt. Jewett on that subject.

On the 16th Dec^r last I forwarded to the Executive of the U. S. a copy of the representation made to me by Capt. Whittlesey in behalf of the inhabitants of Saybrook and added my own earnest solicitation that the request might be granted. The demand is so entirely just & reasonable that I feel myself bound to suppose it will not be disregarded. The legislature have given no authority to erect or repair fortifications at the expense of the state, but any other aid in my power to afford you will not be withheld. It is my intention to select some of the largest & best iron ordnance we possess for fort Fenwick. Nothing but the ill health & urgent avocation of the Q. M. G. have prevented the business from being near its accomplishment. Another gentleman has been appointed to examine & prove the iron guns belonging to the State and it is hoped that unless the severity of the season should retard his operations we shall be able to do something efficient for your protection by the opening of the spring, in case the U. S. should neglect or refuse to furnish an adequate defence.

Respecting a memorial to the Gen^l Government I have only to observe that the inhabitants of Saybrook & the town^s on the river will exercise their own sound discretion. It is possible success may attend a procecedure of that kind. The President who has in his hands the disposition of the national force is I conceive the authority to be addressed if an application is thought adviseable. I do not consider it necessary or proper for the executive of the State to be concerned in a measure of that nature. However suitable it may be for individuals or corporations to *petition* for relief, it is not usual for the govern-

ment of Connecticut or either branch of it to pursue that course. Should no favourable change of circumstances take place we may confidently expect the Gen^l Assembly will not lose sight of what is due to the protection of the & the safety of its citizens.

I am &c

A. WHITTLESEY Esq^r &c [Copy]

SETH P. STAPLES TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[2:66]

NEW HAVEN Jany 14th 1813

To His Excellency The Capt General

Sir

Your Excellencys Letter of the 31st ult was duly rec^d. I have also received from the Secretary the Q. M. General, Reports of the Iron Ordnance. The Q M General Col Mix is now here & spent last evening with me. He has given me such further information as in his power. From all I can learn I much doubt whether it will be practicable to examine effectually & prove the ordinance till Spring. The Guns ore all or nearly all not only on but in the ground & filled with earth stone water &c all frozen in. A few days will not thaw them out. I have examined a Gun or two in this town & find this their situation. I will however enter upon the business as early as possible & where the expense will be the least.

The Q. M. General Col Mix informs me that there are no implements for proving or examining the ordinance. Such instruments always ought to be in the arsenal. A Scraper, a Searcher, an instrument to ascertain with exactness the caliber of the Gun & size of a Ball & an instrument to ascertain the diameter of the bore throughout. The last instrument is the most difficult to procure & the most wanted in this Service. If any defects exist in the ordinance reported it will probably be found to be in the bore of the Gun, occasioned by the rust eating more in one place than another & thus leaving the diam-

eter of the Gun larger in one part than another. The pieces I am informed are mostly on the ground. If so the breach of the Gun being much the heaviest will sink fastest & deepest in the ground & leave the muzzle elevated & the water thus gets into the Chambers of the Gun. Near the muzzle it will soon dry after having been wet; but farther towards the breach it will reman longer damp not having been exposed so much to the circulation of air & of course corrode much faster by the rust. Thus the diameter of the Gun may have become unequal to that degree that the Ball will bounce. If so the Gun is good for nothing but old Iron. Where this defect is not I have little doubt but that the Guns will be useful. To ascertain with precision this defect an instrument of the kind last mentioned is necessary.

I have conferred with M^r Whitney on the subject of these instruments & hope he will enable me procure such as will answer the present purpose & prove useful to the State hereafter. I shall get the instruments & charge the expense to the State unless otherwise directed & when I have done with them deliver them over to the Q. M. General. The Brass ordnance ought to be often examined with them. I will call on the Q M General for such power & Ball as may be necessary.

I remain with great
respect your Excellencys
Most Ob^t & very Hb Serv^t

SETH P STAPLES

[Superscribed] JOHN COTTON SMITH Esquire Governor & Cap.
General of Connecticut at Sharon Conn^t 10

[Endorsed] Col. S. P. Staples 15. Jany 1814 rec^d 20th Iron ord-
nance

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO JONAH GATES

[2:67]

SHARON 16. January 1813

Sir,

I have received your letter of the 6th instant requesting my decision upon the relative rank of Captains Crowell, Palmer and Pratt. It would be improper for me to pronounce a formal

opinion on the merits of this particular case until applied to for that purpose either by the parties themselves or by the Lieutenant colonel commandant of the regiment. At the same time I will with great cheerfulness state to you for your individual satisfaction the view I entertain of the abstract question.

By the "Act for forming and conducting the military force of this State" the Legislature adopted the rules of discipline established by congress in 1779 for the government of the American Army. When the General Assembly thus adopted these rules they necessarily adopted also the construction given to them, and the usage and practice upon them in that army. What then was the practice of the army in settling contested claims to rank under circumstances similar to the present? I understand it clearly to have been, *when commissions bore equal date the rank was decided by a reference to former pretensions, that is to say, by the date and grade of prior commissions, if there were no prior pretensions, the rank was determined by lot.* Such having been the usage in the army of the revolution, I conceive a sound interpretation of our own law renders it obligatory upon the officers of the militia.

I am sensible there have been instances in which older captains of younger companies have consented to waive the privilege of being posted according to rank from a desire to retain the command of their own companies. This is however mere matter of courtesy, and cannot be considered as a relinquishment of their right.

I am Sir with due consideration
Your very obedient servant
JOHN COTTON SMITH

Major JONAH GATES East Haddam [Copy]

BENJAMIN TALLMADGE TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[2:68]

WASHINGTON Jan^y 18th 1813

Dear Sir

I enclose, in two packets, a pretty comprehensive Report from the Treasury Department, which has this day been laid on our Tables. On examining this Report, & the Report of the

Sec^y of War, furnished in Consequence of my Resolution, You will perceive some Difference in the Sum furnished to purchase Arms for the Militia. There appears also from M^r Eustis's own Showing, that there is a large Sum of money which he drew out, altogether unaccounted for. It is in Contemplation to give another Call on this Subject, & from the Examination which I have already made on the Books of the Accountant of the War Department, I fear we shall get but little Satisfaction on that head.

You have undoubtedly noticed the late Nominations of Sec^y of War & Sec^y of the Navy. Gen^l Armstrong has fared rather hard in the Senate, but finally passed A 18. N. 15. M^r Jones went very smoothly thro' the Ordeal.

We have finally passed the Bill authorising the President to raise 20 additional Regiments (20,000 Men) for one year. The Discussion on this Bill has been a very interesting one, embracing the whole Circle of our foreign Relations, & the Causes which lead to the present War.

We shall probably have some plans, or propositions submitted by the Comm^{tee} of foreign Relations, purporting to be *projects* for a peace: But I shall have no Confidence in the sincerity of the Administration, fully believing that this War is to be persisted in, if men & money can be obtained to carry it on

I have the Honor to be,
with great respect,
Your most Obed^t Serv^t
BENJ TALLMADGE

[Superscribed] L^t Gov^r SMITH

[Endorsed] Hon. B. Tallmadge 18. Jan^y 1813

DAVID HUMPHREYS TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[2:69]

HUMPHREYSVILLE Jan^{ry} 18th 1813

Sir

On my return to this Place, from Washington, a few days ago, I had the honour to receive your letter of the 9th inst.

The very flattering manner in which the proposition to

raise a Troop of Horse at Humphreysville has been accepted by the Commander in Chief is duly appreciated; and the arrangements which have been made by the advice & consent of the Council, so far as I have been able to learn, are highly gratifying to all concerned & will not fail to excite their utmost exertions to justify the confidence reposed in them. They will wish for no distinction but that which has been with so much delicacy & politeness, indicated in your letter. It will be very convenient that they should be as early advised of the uniform &c which shall be prescribed, as the nature of the circumstances will permit. The Officers & Men, a considerable portion of whom are engaged, will I have every reason to believe, be ambitious of acquitting themselves in the high responsibility they have voluntarily assumed, with credit to themselves and advantage to their Country. I have equal ground for believing the same will be the fact with regard to the Company of Artillery which is forming in this neighbourhood.

It might not, perhaps, so well become me to speak of the opinion I entertain of the respectable & patriotic Character of the Citizens, who have formed themselves into a Volunteer Company of Infantry, altogether from Exempts, since they have done me the honour of electing me their Captain, during my late absence. Lt Col^o Ira Smith has transmitted the names of the Officers to the Adjutant Gen^l, by which Return your Honour will be informed that my associates are Gentlemen who have long served the State with reputation, both in Military & Civil life. In case a Crisis should ever arrive for calling forth the Yeomanry of the Country in its defence, I trust the State will have cause to be satisfied with such Defenders; altho' many of them have long since passed the flower of their Age, and some of them become veterans in the public Service.

The Citizens of this Village and its vicinity will not fail to be highly gratified with the favourable sentiments expressed of their patriotism.

For your polite personal expressions, the best return I can make is the tender of the continuance of such Services as may be compatible with the remains of health & vigour in a life, so early & so long devoted to my Country. Services, which, in the

tranquil period of life at which I have reached, it was not anticipated would have been again demanded.

I propose to have the honour of seeing you in Hartford, next week, as I expect to be on my way to Boston at that time. To which occasion I rese[rve] myself for making some observations, (not very interesting perhaps) on the State of affairs at the Seat of Government; but which may be communicated with more convenience verbally than by writing.

With sentiments of high respect &
esteem. I have the honor to be
Sir

Y^r m^o ob: & m^o h^{ble} Serv^t

D. HUMPHREYS.

His Honor L^t Gov^r SMITH &c &c &c Sharon

[Superscribed] His Honour L^t Gov^r SMITH Commander in
Chief of the Forces &c &c &c Sharon State of Connec-
ticut H^a Ville Jan 20th Post paid 10

[Endorsed] Hon^{ble} D. Humphreys 18. Jan^y 1813.

ELIHU SANFORD TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[2:70]

WOODBIDGE Jan^y 18th AD 1813

His Honour John C. Smith

Lieut. Govenor

S^r I acknowledge the receipt of your Letter of the 30th of Decem^r 1812 conferring on me the appointment of a Lieut. Col^o of the 2^d Regt of Infantry of the Military Corps of this state; feeling my responsibility to your *Honour*, and the *Honourable Councill*, & trusting that your *Honour* will not be disapointed in the trust to me reposed, I accept.

I have the Honour to be your
Honour's most obedient &
very humble servant
ELIHU SANFORD

JOHN C. SMITH

Lieu^t Govenor

[Superscribed] JOHN COTTON SMITH Lieut. Govenor Hartford.

[Endorsed] L^t Col. Elihu Sanford's acceptance

TENDER OF SERVICE OF GRENADIER COMPANY

[2:71]

The Legislature of this State having at their Session in October last established a Military Corps for the defence of the State, and authorized the Commander in Chief to accept the services of Militia Companies who may volunteer in such manner, & under such regulations as he may prescribe. The Subscribers Officers and Soldiers of the independent company of Grenadiers in the Town of Plainfield, annexed to the 21st Reg^t of Militia, hereby proffer their Services to His Honor the Lieutenant Governor & Commander in Chief as a part of said Military Corps and request His Honor to accept them accordingly reserving to themselves, the same chartered rights which they now hold, whenever they may be remanded back to said 21st Reg^t

Dated at PLAINFIELD 20^h January 1813

GEORGE MIDDLETON Cap ^t	PENTECOST SWEET J ^r
ELKANAH C. EATON 1 st Lieu ^t	ASA MONTGOMERY JNR
JARED WILSON	FREEMAN PERKINS
WALTER PALMER JR	PHILIP POTTER J ^r
W ^m E. ROBINSON	JOHN BARTHOLOICK
JOHN THURSTON	NATHAN DENESEN
JOSEPH HUTCHENS	SAMUEL HUTCHINS
HEZIKAH FRENCH	JOHN COZZENS JU ^r
LEVI JONES	AUGUSTUS D. DURRANCE
PARDON BURLINGAME	JOSHUA MORDOCK
THOMAS FOSTER	AUGUSTUS PRIOR
JOSEPH LOTHROP	MEL VAUGHN
JAMES WILLIAMS	
WILLIAM BRIGGS	
BENONI PETERSON	
JOHN VAUGHN	
OLNEY PERKINS	

[Endorsed] Plainfield Company of Grenadiers, tender of Service in the Military Corps. Accepted and the officers commissioned J. C. Smith.

DAVID DAGGETT TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[2:73]¹

NEW HAVEN Jan^y 25. 1813

My dear sir.

It is again out of my power to meet with the Council. There are six or seven prisoners to be tried this week, & the slightest offence charged is burglary. It is also of little importance that you have any one from here but M^r G. as he has increased so rapidly in military skill that by the time he shall be 75 I have no doubt of his becoming equal to Kutusoff.

I congratulate you most sincerely on the very interesting intelligence from Russia. Those great events not only enliven our hopes for the future destiny of Europe but must have a happy influence on the wayward councils of this depressed section.

Major Standley the successor of S. P. Staples Esq^r in the command of the artillery corps in this City, I think, all things considered is the most suitable man to take the post which he declined in the army about to be raised.

Yours very sincerely

DAVID DAGGETT

Gov^r SMITH

[Superscribed] GOVERNOUR SMITH Hartford Hon M^r Goodrich
[Endorsed] Hon David Daggett.

BILL FOR POSTAGE

[2:74]

State of Connecticut to J. C. Smith D^r

To postage on letters in the absence of the Governour.

in July last	\$1.25
To D ^o Oct.	26
To D ^o D ^o	1.32
To D ^o D ^o	20
To D ^o D ^o	20

¹Document 2:72 is a commission as Ensign to Jedidiah Mills, January 5, 1813.

COLLECTIONS OF THE CONNECTICUT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

To D ^o	D ^o	10
	D ^o	16
	D ^o	8
	D ^o	26
	D ^o	24
	D ^o	24
	D ^o p ^d on letter to Mrs Griswold & } enclosing	24
Nov ^r 6 th	D ^o from Q. M. Gen ^l	10
	D ^o from Washington (M. C.)	20
	D ^o from N. Haven de military appeal	10
Nov. 11 th	D ^o from Ad. Gen ^l	25
	17 th D ^o from Major Guards	10
	20 th D ^o to Gov ^r Maryland	17
	D ^o to Major Monson	10
	Paid at Hartford 30 th Nov ^r	96
17 th Dec.	From Colchester 12 ¹ / ₂ Hartford 10	
	Brooklyn 10	32 ¹ / ₂
	N. Haven	10
carried over		\$6.71 ¹ / ₂
Brot over		\$6.71 ¹ / ₂
24 Dec ^r	Letter from N. Hampshire	17
	D ^o from Adj ^t Gen ^l	10
29 th Jan	Ridgefield, Derby, Fairfield	45
Jan ^y 6 th	Two letters ad 10 th	20
	9 th D ^o D ^o Sent post ^{ge} paid	20
	12 th D ^o D ^o rec ^d from Newtown	10
	14 th Paid on three letters	28
	19 th Com ⁿ from N. Carolina	1. 0
	D ^o from N. york	12 ¹ / ₂
		\$9:34.0

Settled with the comptroller 28. Jan^y 1813.

[Endorsed] Acct of Postage

ISAAC D. BULL TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[2:75]

HARTFORD Februy 1st 1813

Sir

Having long since determind that further military promotion would not be desirable to me, and now finding the present Commandant of the first Comp^y of Gov^s foot Guards has accepted a command in the Corps for defence of this State, believing the acceptance of it will induce the necessity of resigning his command of the Guards, at least immediately after the ensuing Election, if not before, I take this early opportunity to request, that the resignation of the office I have been entrusted with in said Comp^y may be accepted at this time

Among the many reasons I have for making the request are, a confirmed defect of sight, More than twenty years faithful performance of my duty in said Comp^y, from a private, through all the various grades of Office to the rank I now hold, A reluctance to incurring the responsibility that may hereafter devolve on me, from an apprehension that my discharge of it may not be altogether to my own satisfaction or that of others, An abatement of military ardor, (though I trust not of a desire to do my duty), and a wish to accommodate those under me more desirous of military honors, and probably more deserving of them than myself.

On a due consideration of what is here offer'd I trust my request will be granted, and that as a good citizen of the State, I shall not be found wanting in the performance of the duties that may hereafter call for my personal exertions, in the protection of our rights against all unlawful or unconstitutional assaults, or invasion of the enemy

I am Sir with great respect

Your Hble Serv^t

ISAAC D. BULL

first Lieut^t first Comp^y Gov^s foot Guards

His Honor JOHN COTTON SMITH Esquire

[Superscribed] His Honor JOHN COTTON SMITH

Esq Sharon Con^t

[Endorsed] Lieut. Isaac D. Bull of the Guards. resignation accepted. 18th February 1813. J. C. Smith Lieut Gen^l &c &c.

AMAZIAH BRAY TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[2:76]

His Hon. John C Smith

Sir

I have thought proper to apply to you for Information relative to the manner I am to proceed, In enlisting the 2^d company of *Artillery*. I waited with the Idea that I should receive *enlisting orders*, authorizing me to enlist the company & pointing out the mode of doing It &c. Will your Honor please to Inform me on the Subject.

I am also frequently call^d upon, by those who expect to belong to the Company, for Information relating to the *uniform* of the Company. It would be agreeable to know whether the uniform will be designated or fixed this winter or at present.

I am with Respect

Your Obt. Serv^t

AMAZIAH BRAY

KILLINGWORTH Febuary 3^d 1813

[Superscribed] His Honor JOHN C SMITH Lieut Governor of Connecticut Sharon Killingworth Feb^y 4th Paid 10

[Endorsed] Capt. Am^h Bray 3. Feb^y 1813. ansr^d 12th

EBENEZER HUNTINGTON TO GEORGE L. PERKINS

[2:77]

Feby 3^d 1813

Major George L Perkins

Sir His Exe^y Gov^r Smith has written to me to know whether the small detachments of militia which have been called out at Killingsworth, Newhaven & elsewhere on the coast have been paid, & also what reasons have existed, or now exist why the 1st Detachment at N L have not been paid.

It has been reprezented to the Gov^r that Capt Waugh

offered to take the money for L Co^{lo} Lucius Smith & that you declined permitting him to receive it, it has also been represented to his Exe^y that on the interposition of Gen^l B—k payment to the Chaplain of the 1st detachment has been withheld, & I believe I ought to add, that the manner in which the representations have been made hath been calculated to impress his Exe^y that there has been improper conduct somewhere. I wish you to make a statement of facts & give me all the information on the above subjects within your power. & provided there are any objections by the War department or yourself, to Completing the payment to all the troops, I wish information, that I may write the Sec^y at War on the subject. I shall write his Exe^y the Gov^r & inform him of the purport of your reply as soon as I receive it

I am your humble servant

EBEN: HUNTINGTON Adj^t Gen^l

State of Conn^t

[Endorsed] Copy to Maj. G. L. Perkins Feb^y 3^d 1814

RECOMMENDATION OF WAIT WILLIAMS

[2:78]

To the Honob^e John C. Smith Liut Gov^r & Commander in Chief of the State of Connecticut

S^r we the undersigned at the request of M^r Wait Williams of Wethersfield who is desirous of obtaining A commission in the new Army contemplated to be raised for the defense of the State by an Act of Assembly in October last past, Having noticed that there was A vacancy of an Ensign in the 10th Comp in the 1st Reg^m Infantry & thinking that the Appointment of an officer in this Town would be of great utility in facilitating the Enlistment of A number of enterprizing young men who would not otherwise enter the Service. As to the Character of M^r Williams we are intimately acquainted with, & consider him A very respectable member of society, & should he recive the appointment of an Ensign in Said Company we dont hesitate to give it as our opinion that he would

fill his Post with fidelity & doo honor to himself & to his Country. Wethersfield Feby 6th 1813

EDMUND BULKLEY Captⁿ 4 Comp

DANIEL FULLER Surgeon of the 6 Regiment

ELEAZAR GOODRICH

JUSTUS ROBBINS

[Superscribed] Honor^{le} JOHN C SMITH Sharon Connecticut
Rocky Hill Ct Febu^y 6 Paid 10

[Endorsed] Capt. Edmund Bulkley Weathersfield. recom^s M^r
Wait Williams to the office of Ensign. 6 Feb^y 1813.
Ans^d 12th

BRAINERD CARRIER TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[2:79]

ENFIELD 8th Febr^y 1813.

Having learned that I have rec'd an appointment or am to receive one, In the Military Corps about to be raised for the Defence of this State, I would Inform your Honor, that I am residing in Enfield & have been almost two years, & My Commission If I accept it will Oblige me to go to Colchester (Almost forty miles) to do Duty, & therefore I shall decline its acceptance.

I am, with great Consideration & respect

Your Honors Most Obt

Hbl Sevt

BRAINERD CARRIER

[Superscribed] His Honor JOHN COTTON SMITH Esqr, Sharon
Enfield Ct Feb^y 13 [paid] 10

[Endorsed] Brainerd Carrier's declination

ELIZUR HINSDALE TO MOSES HAYDEN

[2:80]

WINCHESTER 8 Feb 1813

Capt Hayden Sir

I recevd yours of the 6 inst. enforming me that you wished my attendance at your House on Tuesday Evening next and

also that you had a commition for me, in reply I would inform you that it will be very difficut for me to attend at that time, and furter if I should inform you that it is my determination which it is not to except the commition which I suppose you have for me it woud not be of any avale for me to atten at that time or any other on that buisness

Yours Very Respectfully

ELIZUR HINSDALE

[Superscribed] Capt MOSES HAYDEN Barkhampstead

SETH P. STAPLES TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[2:81]

NEW HAVEN Feby 10th 1813

*To His Honour John C. Smith Esqr
Commander in Chief of the Militia of Connecticut*

Sir

Capt Oliver Clark late Commander of the 4th Troop of Cavelry in the 2nd Regiment now a Major in the same Regiment has informed me that the Commandent of the 2nd Company of Gov^r Horse Guards last Summer enlisted from s^d Troop 2 men & that they have consequently left the Troop & been fined for not doing duty in s^d Troop. It was expected that they would have appealed & thus the question would have been brought before you for a decission, but they have not done it.

I write for the Officers of that Troop as well as on my own account or the commander of the Regiment & beg leave to observe that the law of most extensive import allowing the Gov^r Guards to recruit is the law passed October Session 1811 & by the terms of that law enlistments are expressly restrained to Battalion Companies. A Troop of Horse can in no sense be called a Battalion Company. Further, By express law the Cavelry as well as Artillery is form^d of Volunteers from the Brigade in certain proportions from the Battalions Companies. It would seem absurd to form by enlistment from Battalion Companies a volunteer troop of Horse & allow another troop

of Horse by enlistment as Volunteers to be formed out of that. I believe it a novelty in forming any army or Militia system to permit one volunteer Company to enlist out of another volunteer Company. It would seem contrary to sound policy to permit a Soldier to break one engagement or enlistment by making another. It breeds confusion, saps the foundation of discipline, & is a great discouragement to men & officers. As I am persuaded these enlistments have been made without the knowledge of your Honour & that when known will be disapproved of; & as the precedent is an alarming one, I have the more readily complied with the request of the Major that I should write to you. I have great respect for the Officers commanding the 2 Co^m of Guards in this place & am personally freindly to them, & the interest of their respective companies; but do not believe the interest of their Companies will be eventually promoted by enlistments made from the volunteer corps. I hope your Honour will put a stop to such enlistment & direct that the men taken from the 4th Troop. shall be returned. With great

esteem I remain

Your Honours Most Obedient

& verry Humble servant

SETH P STAPLES

[Superscribed] To His Honour JOHN C. SMITH Esq Lieut Gov^r
& Commander of the Militia of Connecticut Sharon Conn^t

[Endorsed] Col. Staples 10. Feb^y 1813 Rec^d 18th Answ^d 19th

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO EDMUND BULKLEY

[2:82]

SHARON 12. February 1813

Sir,

The communication signed by yourself & Several other gentlemen, recommending M^r Wait Williams to the office of ensign in the military corps has been duly received. No appointment in the corps can be made without the advice & consent of the Council, nor is it probable that body will be again convened before the next Session of the Gen^l Assembly.

PAPERS OF JOHN COTTON SMITH

I was desirous at the late meeting of the Council to appoint an officer in the town of Weathersfield, but as there were no applicants I found it difficult to make a proper Selection. If your recommendation had been forwarded at that time I should readily have nominated M^r Williams. Under present circumstances I can only express my regret that the vacancy must remain until May next.

I am Sir respectfully your
obedient & humble Ser^t

CAPT. EDMUND BULKLEY. [Copy]

[Endorsed] To Capt. Buckley &c.

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO JOHN S. CANNON

[2:83]

SHARON 18th Feb^y 1813.

Sir,

The Quarter Master General, by my direction, has forwarded ammunition to New London and New Haven for the use of the Artillery at those places. It has occurred to me that similar provision ought perhaps to be made for the borough of Bridgeport; altho' no formal application for the purpose seems to have been presented since the resolve of the General Assembly was passed vesting in the Executive a discretionary authority to issue military supplies. Whilst I was at Hartford in July last a communication upon this Subject Signed by yourself and Several other gentlemen was addressed to me under the apprehension that Governour Griswold was then absent. His Excellency however had returned to the State before the letter came to hand, and I immediately delivered it to him. I will now thank you, Sir, to inform me of the particular situation of the artillery company in your vicinity, what pieces of ordinance it is Supplied with, and the caliber of each, Also whether you have a safe and convenient place of deposit for such ammunition as it may be thought expedient to forward.

I am Sir respectfully your
obedient and very humble servant

JOHN COTTON SMITH

JOHN S. CANNON Esquire. [Copy]

[Endorsed] J. S. Cannon Esq^r

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO EBENEZER HUNTINGTON

[2:84]

19. Feb^y 1813.

My dear Sir,

Isaac D. Bull of Hartford first Lieutenant of the first company of foot guards has requested a discharge. His reasons appearing to me satisfactory I have yielded to his desire, and have endorsed an acceptance of his resignation under date of the 18th instant. You will be pleased to issue the necessary order to Col. Terry to lead the company to the choice of a proper person to fill that vacancy and any other which such choice may occasion

I enclose the return of volunteers from the first society in Washington with my approbation endorsed and a memorandum of the order issued by me to Col. Cogswell. I am informed the number of associates will be speedily & considerably increased.

I hope for the pleasure of soon hearing from you that the new corps is in a prosperous train.

With Sentiments of sincere esteem I
am my dear Sir your O^b & very
hu^b Ser^t

[Endorsed] To Adjut. Gen^l Huntington 19. Feb^y 1813.

[Copy]

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO SETH P. STAPLES

[2:85]

SHARON 19. Feb^y 1813.

Sir,

Your letter of the 10th instant is received. I entirely accord with you in Sentiment that enlistments into the Guards from the cavalry ought not to be permitted. By a copy in my possession of the recruiting order issued by the late Capt. Gen^l under date of 9th May last I perceive that the Major Com^t of the 2nd Company of horse guards is expressly limited in his en-

listments to "battalion companies of *infantry*." If the terms of this order have been exceeded in the manner you mention I must presume the Major Com^t was not apprized of the circumstances, but received these recruits without a knowledge of their former relation. He will therefore make no hesitation in complying with the direction now forwarded to restore the men to their standing in the cavalry.

I am Sir with much esteem
your very ob^t Ser^t
J. C. S.

COL. S. P. STAPLES
[Copy]

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO ELIHU MUNSON

[2:85]

SHARON 19. Feb^y 1813.

Sir,

It is represented to me by Col. Staples that in the course of the last summer two privates belonging to the 4th troop in the 2nd regiment of cavalry were enlisted into the 2nd company of Horse Guards under your command. I perceive by the recruiting order of the late Capt. General under date of the 9th May last you are limited in your enlistments to the "battalion companies of *infantry*," and it may well be doubted whether we have any law that will allow the commander in chief to issue an order in more extensive terms. If in pursuance of this authority recruits have been taken from the *cavalry* I presume it was the result of mere mistake. You will therefore not hesitate to correct the error by restoring the men to their former standing in the militia.

I am Sir with much esteem
your obedient & very hum ser^t
J. C. S.

MAJOR MUNSON.

[Endorsed] Answer copy. & to Major Munson

EBENEZER HUNTINGTON TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[2:86]

NORWICH 26. Feb^y 1813.

Dear sir

Yesterdays mail, furnished me with your esteemed favor of the 19th, the contents have been duly attended to & the necessary orders issued. As the returns from the Col^{os} & Commandants have not yet been received I can not ascertain the success which has attended the recruiting for the State, but presume I shall receive returns (agreeably to my orders to the Gentlemen) that I may make my return by the 1^t of March. I wish your opinion, whether under the law of this state for raising the state troops, the recruiting officers may inlist men who have been detached in conformity to the requisition from the President of the United States. I inclose to you a copy of the General Order issued respecting the uniform for the State Troops.

I am with much esteem
your very sincerely
EBEN: HUNTINGTON

Governor SMITH

[Superscribed] His Honor GOVERNOR SMITH Sharon Norwich
Feb 26th [paid] 20

[Endorsed] Adjutant Gen^l Huntington 26. Feb^y 1813. answ^d
6. March.

EBENEZER HUNTINGTON TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[2:87]

NORWICH 6 March 1813

Dear sir

Inclosed you will receive a copy of the association entered into by the gentlemen of Plainfield, & I am requested by the associates to pray an early order that they may be led to the choice of officers, & that they may be gratified in having the order directed to Col^o Daniel Putnam to lead them to the choice.

I wrote you last week, & at that time flattered myself with the hope, that before this time I should have returns of the men inlisted into the Corps of State Troops, but I have as yet,

PAPERS OF JOHN COTTON SMITH

rec^d no return but from Col^o Terry, & his includes only five companies, & amounts to Ninety two.

My order to the Comm^d^{ts} of the Infantry regiments, & to the Comm^d^s of Artillery & Cavalry, directed monthly returns, the first to be made by the first of March.

I am dear sir with much esteem
your very humble servant

EBEN: HUNTINGTON

His Honor GOVERNOR SMITH

Since closing the within letter, I have rec^d returns from the Cavalry, artillery, & 2^d regiment of Infantry.

A return of the men enlisted in the Corps of State troops anterior to the 20th February 1813.

1 ^t Reg ^t of Infantry	(5 companies reported)	92
2 ^d ditto	(8 companies reported)	215
Cavalry		77
Artillery	(3 companies)	103

487

NORWICH 6 March 1813

[2:87]

Eben: Huntington Comm^d^t State Troops

Colⁿ Putnam has made return to my office, of the choice of officers in the Brooklyn Company of Exempts; the Cap^t having been appointed in the State troops, rendered an order necessary to recognize s^d company, which was issued by your direction, & I wish to know, whether commissions shall be made out & issued to the officers elected as [per] his return.

yours ut supra

E. H.

Lieu^t Scarborough chosen Captain

Ensⁿ Benjamin Pierce Lieu^t

John Parish Ensⁿ

His Honor Gov Smith

[Superscribed] His Honor GOVERNOR SMITH Sharon

Litchfield March 10 [paid] 16

[Endorsed] Adj^t Gen^l Huntington 6. March 1813 Plainfield
volunteers Brooklyn D^o returns of recruits in State
army to 20th Feb^y 487 answ^d 13. March 1813

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO EBENEZER HUNTINGTON

[2:88]

March 6th 1813*Dear Sir*

Your favour of the 26. ult^o has been duly received. I have reflected upon your question & feel it to be attended with with some embarrassment. The act makes no exception of the detached militia but allows enlistments indiscriminately provided the companies are not reduced below a certain number. Indeed by permitting the commander in chief to accept *whole* companies the legislature must have supposed the detached militia might become constituent members of the *corps*. Still good faith requires that detachment be held in readiness for the emergencies contemplated by the constitution. That any case *fairly* within the purview of that instrument *will* arise before the act authorizing the detachment expires I do not believe, nor do I believe the administration will be disposed to give the Executive of this state another opportunity to *interpret* its orders. I cannot therefore Suppose there will be much risque in enlisting the privates who have been detached. At the same time the enlistment should be provisional that is to say the men must be received with an express understanding of their being liable to the constitutional calls of the General Government for the *ensuing year*. The act of congress is limited to two years from *its date* but no longer if the war should continue. I do not know that we can place the subject on any better ground. It was understood that Capt. Middleton's company were to be accepted as part of the corps & their officers were commissioned with that view. As yet however they have not tendered their services in form. To Save time & trouble I hereby authorize you in your capacity of Adjutant Gen^l to signify my acceptance when the offer shall be made. And to prevent farther delay it may be well to apprize Col. Putnam of this circumstance. I am D^r Sir with sincere esteem &c

[Endorsed] To Adj^t Gen^l HUNTINGTON.

[Copy]

PAPERS OF JOHN COTTON SMITH

GEORGE McNARY AND ERASTUS MERRELLS TO
JOHN COTTON SMITH

[2:89]

To the Honourable John Cotton Smith Esq^r Lieut Governor and to Honourable Council of the State of Connecticut whose prerogative it is to Appoint the Officers to the Corps about to be raised for the defence of the State. Gentlemen We the Subscribers with Permission would bring into your Honours view the Vacancy in the 6th Company in 1st Regiment of a first Lieutennant by the Non exceptance of Lieut Elizur Hinsdale. Ensign Joel Hitchcock of the Grenadier Company of the 25th Regiment would chearfully accept the Appointment Should you Honours think fit to Appoint him. If we might be permitted to express our Opinion as to his Character and qualifications we should say he is exceeded but by few as a Soldier or good Citizen and should not local Circumstances forbid or a Previous appointment take place we would signify to your Honours that we should be highly gratified by his appointment and should serve under him with Chearfulness and Satisfaction

GEORGE M^cNARY 2 Lieut

ERASTUS MERRELLS Ensign

[Superscribed] Honb^l JOHN COTTON SMITH Lieut Governor of the State of Connecticut Sharon

[Endorsed] Lieut. M^cNary and Ensign Merrill's representation respecting the vacancy in their company. Rec^d 6. March 1813.

ELIHU MONSON TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[2:90]

NEW HAVEN March 8th 1813

His Honor John Cotton Smith

Sir Your Honors Letter of the 19th Feb^y I have received, & should have answered sooner but waited for an interview with the two Men referred to in Colⁿ Staples Letter to Your Honor. those Men were both enlisted last May previous to the order of his Excellency the late Capⁿ General they represented to me that the roll of their Comp^y was larger than al-

lowed by Law. I immediately wrote to Gov^r Griswold informing him that I had enlisted from the 4th Troop of Horse these two Men, & requested him to approve of the enlistmen the then sent on an order a Coppy of which I have sent Your Honor. his Excellency did not disapprove of my doings of course I considered it to imply approbation, at any rate I hope Your Honor will not Consider Your Honor's last communication as an absolute order to return those Men untill the facts are better understood. they have been to great expense to Equip themselves in the Horse Guards, and if ordered back their services will be totally lost to the State, for they will never do duty in any other Company, if the 4th Company of Cavalry was as represented by them, at the time they enlisted, we have a right to them, if Your Honor considers the conduct of the late Capⁿ Genral approving of the enlistment we certainly have right to them, I will procure the returns of that Comp^y & forward to Your Honor as soon as possible.

I would inform Your Honor that the 2^d Comp^y of Horse Guards is not yet full and the order of the late Capⁿ Genral extended only to the 15th of October last. I therefore request Your Honor to give an order to enlist untill the Comp^y shall be compleate

I am with the highest respect Your Honors
most Obed^t & Hum^l Ser^t

ELIHU MONSON

[Superscribed] His Honor JOHN COTTON SMITH Sharon

[Endorsed] Major Monson of the Horse Guards. Rec^d 16.
March 1813 answ^d 18th.

LUTHER BRADLEY TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[2:92]¹

NEW HAVEN March 10th 1813

His Honor John Cotton Smith

Sir the law passed Oc^t Sesion 1811 Makes it the duty of the Comanders of the Several Compensys of Govenors Guards

¹Document 2:91 is copy of the contract between James Byers, of Springfield, Mass., and the Department of War of the United States concerning the supply of rations to the States of Connecticut, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, New Hampshire and the District of Maine.

to Enlist with the approbation of the Cap^t General being desirous to fill the Role of the 2^d Comp^y of Govenors Foot Guards and having already a Number of applications to Enlist, I wish your Honor to give me an order to Enlist, that I may fill my Comp^y.

Respectfully your Ob^t Srv^t

LUTHER BRADLEY

Major Comandant 2^d Comp^y Gov^s Foot Guards.

P. S a Copy of the desision Respecting Cap^t Peck and my Self has ben given him acording to your Honors direction.

[Superscribed] Honable, JOHN COTTON SMITH Sharon

[Endorsed] Major Bradley of the Foot Guards. Rec^d 16th

March 1813 answ^d 18th

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO EBENEZER HUNTINGTON

[2:93]

SHARON 13. March 1813.

Dear Sir

I have the pleasure to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 6th instant. The Plainfield association is herewith returned with my approbation endorsed and a direction to issue the order to Col. Putnam.

You will be pleased to make out & deliver commissions to the gentlemen recently elected to office in the Brooklyn company, conformably to the return.

The number of recruits in the State Corps is certainly very respectable for the time. I hope the next report may be equally flattering.

You will have received ere now my letter of the 6th instant in answer to your favour of the 26th Ult^o. In addition to what is there observed relative to the enlistment of the detached militia, I think you may venture to assure the recruits of that description that if the detachment is ordered out which is highly improbable they may hope to escape, unless *the whole* are demanded, an event not within the bounds of any rational calculation.

I am Dear Sir very Sincerely yours

[Endorsed] Adj^t Gen^l Huntington. 13. March 1813.

[Copy]

THOMAS HUBBARD TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[2:94]

MIDDLETOWN 16th March 1813.

*To his Honor John Cotton Smith Esqr;
Commander in Chief. Sir:*

I beg leave to request your attention to the first paragraph of the "act to establish a Military Corps for the defence of this State," empowering enlistments from the Militia, "but no company of Infantry in the Militia of this State, by means of such enlistment therefrom may be reduced to the number of Thirty Six Non-Commission'd officers and privates"

As there is a difference of opinion between the Officers of the Militia Cavalry here and myself, I would submit the question to your honor's decision, whether Cavalry is intended to be exempted, with Infantry, or no, and whether it is your pleasure they should be. I have enlisted two men from the Troop, whom the Captain claims he can hold, as he has not *thirty Six* under his Command.

I have also to make the enquiry whether enlistments may be made of drafted Men, who are now return'd to the Adjutant General as such, and whether such enlistment in the State Troops exempts such drafted Men from liability should they be call'd.

There never having been any General Orders on these subjects I am induced to request directions, by which I may govern my future proceedings, without infringing on others rights, or giving up my own.

Respectfully
Your obedient Serv^t
TH^s HUBBARD
Cap^t State Cavalry

[Superscribed] His Honor JOHN COTTON SMITH Sharon paid

[Endorsed] Capt. Tho^s Hubbard 16. March 1813 Recd 23rd
answ^d D^o.

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO LUTHER BRADLEY

[2:95]

To Luther Bradley Esquire Major Commandant of the Second company of Governour's foot Guards.

You are authorized, until farther orders, to recruit your company from the infantry of the militia, flank companies excepted. You will be careful at the same time not to enlist from any company which may have been already reduced, by enlistments into the "Military Corps," to the number of thirty Six non commissioned officers and privates.

Dated the 18th day of March AD 1813.

[Copy]

JOHN COTTON SMITH.

Sir,

The foregoing order you perceive is not without its limitations. The first in favour of the flank companies I believe to have been intended by the legislature in the act of october 1811 altho' not so expressed. and the act establishing a military corps, which has since passed, renders it obviously necessary that no farther reduction of the ordinary battalion companies should be allowed than what is therein contemplated. Notwithstanding these restrictions I trust you will be able to complete the roll of your excellent company, and you have my best wishes for your success.

I am Sir with esteem your
friend & ser^t J. C. SMITH

Major BRADLEY.

[Endorsed] To Major Bradley

[Copy]

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO ELIHU MONSON

[2:96]

To Elihu Munson Esq^r Major Commandant of the Second company of Governour's Horse guards.

You are authorized, until farther orders, to recruit your company from the infantry of the Militia, flank companies

excepted. You will at the same time take care not to enlist from any company which may have been already reduced, by enlistments into the "Military corps," to the number of thirty Six non commissioned officers & privates.

Dated the 18th March 1813.

[Copy]

J. C. SMITH

Sir,

You will perceive at once the propriety of the limitations in the foregoing order. They are rendered indispensable by events which have taken place and the measures adopted in consequence by the legislature since the passage of the law of Oct. 1811. I hope however they will form no serious obstacle to your success. It is much to be desired that your company so respectable in appearance & discipline should obtain its full complement of men.

My direction to restore the privates enlisted from the 4th troop was not intended to be absolute but upon condition you admitted the truth of the representation made by Col. Staples. As you express a wish to submit farther evidence I shall postpone a definitive order until you can have reasonable time to produce it. If you & Col. Staples will agree on a statement of facts, it would be highly satisfactory to me.

I am Sir with sincere esteem
your obedient ser^t

Major MUNSON.

[Endorsed] To Major Monson Copy

AMAZIAH BRAY TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[2:97]

KILLINGWORTH

March 19th 1813

His Honor J. C Smith

Sir

at the request of a number of very respectable Inhabitants of the Town of Guilford, & In their behalf I have been ordered to make the following Statement & application.

The local Situation of Guilford is such as renders It pe-

culiarally liable to be frequently Trepassed upon, In the present war by the Landing of Small parties, for the purpose of plunder & commit outrages. they regret extreemly that the Subject was not attend to In Season for one of the companies composing the Battalion recently raised, to have been Located In that Town.

The object of this application is to obtain permission of Your Hon^r to raise an artillery company In that Town from *Exempts only*.

They State that a Sufficient number of Persons In the Middle age of Life, & respectable In Society who are Exempted from Duty, may be found to fill Such a company, provided proper ordinance could be furnished them. will It be impertinant Sir to request Your Honor to answer the following enquires.

Whether Such a company could be permitted to be raised, In Guilford and be furnished with proper ordinance from the State. presuming your Hon^r is well acquainted with the circumstances attending the Situations of our Sea Port Towns, that are destitute of Artillery & the means of Defending [them] Selves & property, from Sudden atta[ck] particular Statements would be unnecessary [] application.

I am Sir with respect
Your Ob^t Serv^t

AMAZIAH BRAY

[Superscribed] His Honor JOHN C SMITH Leu^t Governor of
Connecticut Sharon Killingworth Mar 20th Paid 10
[Endorsed] Capt. Am^h Bray 20. March 1813. de Artillery C^o
at Guilford Rec^d 23rd answ^d D^o

NATHANIEL TERRY TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[2:98]

HARTFORD March 22^d 1813

His Honor Lieu^t Gov^r Smith

Benjamin Talcott J^r of Vernon belonging to the 7th Company of the 19th Regiment of Militia Tuttle
of this Town belonging to the ninth Company of the first Regi-

ment of Militia have applied to me to be enlisted into the first Company of Governors foot guards under my command. I request your Honor to approve their enlistment in persuance of the authority vested in the Commander in cheif by an act passed at the Session of the Gen^l Assembly in October 1811. I take the liberty to request of your Honor a general Authority to enlist men to fill the Company of guards under my command, from any Battallion Company to continue for such length of time, as your Honor shall think proper. I make this request to prevent the necessity of frequent applications to your Honor as cases occur. The late Governor Griswold gave me such an Authority by his Letter dated the 24th of April 1812, to continue untill the 15th of October 1812. I am very respectfully your Honors

Most obedient servant
NATH^l TERRY

I have forgotten the Christian name of Tuttle, but I believe there is no other of that name in the Comp^y to which he belongs N. T.

[Superscribed] His Honor LIEU^t GOVERNOR SMITH Sharon
Con^t Mail Paid 10

[Endorsed] Col. N. Terry 22. March 1813. Rec^d 25th answ^d D^o

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO THOMAS HUBBARD

[2:99]

SHARON 23rd March 1813

Sir

In reply to your letter of the 19th instant I would observe that although the act to establish a Military Corps has fixed no limitation to enlistments from the cavalry, yet I have deemed it expedient not to allow any one troop to be reduced by such enlistments below the number of *thirty*, exclusive of the commissioned officers. I regret that the legislature omitted to furnish a rule in relation to this portion of the militia as in case of the infantry, and it is not improbable, if the service should require it, that a farther provision will be made at the

PAPERS OF JOHN COTTON SMITH

approaching session. In the mean time you will conform to the regulation above mentioned.

Instructions are already forwarded to the Brigadier General Commandant relative to recruits from the detached militia, which you will doubtless receive through him. I will now only remark that men thus circumstanced by enlisting into the 'Corps' are not to be considered as *thereby* released from all liability to obey the *constitutional* calls of the general government. Still a rational hope may be indulged that their places in the detachment will be supplied by others. Should an exigency arise in which their Services may with propriety be demanded. And it may be worthy of consideration that as the act of Congress on this Subject will expire in one year from the ensuing April, those who now become members of the 'Corps' will not be subject to any future detachment during the continuance of the war.

With my best wishes for your success in the recruiting service

I am Sir your obedient & humble servant

J. C. SMITH

Capt. HUBBARD.

[Endorsed] To Capt. Tho^s Hubbard Copy.

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO NATHANIEL TERRY

[2:100]

Nathaniel Terry Esquire Major Commandant of the first company of Foot Guards.

You are authorized, until farther orders, to recruit your company from the Infantry of the militia, flank companies excepted. You will at the same time be careful not to enlist from any company which, by enlistments into the Military Corps, may have been already reduced to the number of thirty six non commissioned officers & privates.

Dated the 25th day of March A D 1813.

[Copy]

J. C. S.

SHARON 25. March 1813

D^r Sir,

The foregoing order, which is similar to those recently issued to the commandants of the guards at New Haven, I presume will enable you to receive into your company the individuals referred to in your letter. If not you have my particular license so to do unless they come within the limitation last mentioned.

I am D^r Sir with sincere esteem
your very ob^t Ser^t J. C. S.

Col. TERRY.

[Endorsed] To Col. Terry 25. March 1813. order to recruit.
[Copy]

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO AMAZIAH BRAY

[2:101]

SHARON 25. March 1813

Sir,

In reply to your letter of the 28th instant I have the pleasure to inform you that the General Assembly by an act passed in october 1812 have authorized the commander in chief to accept the services of any company of *artillery* or mounted infantry to be formed from exempts who may volunteer for either of those purposes, the officers to be appointed and commissioned in the manner prescribed by the act passed in August last. If a Sufficient number of the citizens of Guilford now excused from military duty are disposed to associate as a volunteer *Artillery company*, they will be readily organized & may expect to be furnished with ordnance by the State. I am aware of the exposed situation of that town and shall most cheerfully exert the powers vested in me to second their laudable attempts for their own security.

I am Sir with esteem
your Ob^t Ser^t
J. C. S.

Capt. A. BRAY.

[Endorsed] to Capt. Bray.
[Copy]

DAVID HUMPHREY TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[2:102]

HUMPHREYSVILLE 26th March 1813

Dear Sir

Since I came back from Boston, the travelling has been so bad, on account of the deep mire in the roads, as to prevent me from having the pleasure which I had contemplated, of paying a visit to your Honour. Although there might not have been any one circumstance of a public nature of so great interest as to have rendered a conference very urgent: there appeared to be so many occurrences & events, at home and abroad, of unusual consequence & bearing on our own political concerns, and, I may say, on the very existence of our Government & Union, that the comparison of facts & the deduction of conclusions, could hardly have failed to have afforded me much satisfaction, & possibly not have been altogether destitute of utility to the Public.

The meeting at this Place, of the Society for promoting Agriculture in the State of Connecticut the beginning of the week after next; will prevent me from having the pleasure of seeing you at Sharon; even if the weather & roads should be much more inviting. The Objects of this Society, I conceive, to be highly important, on all occasions, but more particularly *so*, in the present state of public affairs; & *as* intimately connected with the growing the raw materials for our domestic Manufactures. If it be of some moment to the Community to make two blades of Grass grow, where only one existed before; of how much more value is it to double the number of fleeces & the worth of each fleece, as has been the fact, since I introduced the first flock of merinos into this continent & State? To this strong *fact* may be superadded, *that* of a still more extraordinary encrease of vegetable production, in consequence of that importation. Some lands, it will be demonstrated to the agricultural Society, have been made (principally by Sheeps' manure) to produce annually twenty fold the amount of their former Crops.

We shall have, likewise, a small Cattle Shew; as well as an Exhibition of the results of our Machinery, & an inspection

or an examination of the moral & economical System which has been adopted, not without great success, for the Education of Youths, of various fortunes & descriptions. Little as the Institutions on which this last mentioned mental & corporeal improvement depends have been known or appreciated; probably greater benefits are to result from it to the Republic, than from any other of the efforts which I have made, to be useful to my Country & generation. It is novel in the world. I flatter myself, its effects will not long be disregarded; or ever lost to the future age.

The Troop of Horse & the Company of Artillery in this neighbourhood are nearly *complete* in numbers; as I learn from both the Commanding Officers. They are using their best endeavours to make them become *so*, in other respects.

I am sorry to learn, that in New Haven, Oxford, & the neighbouring Towns, little or no efforts have been made, for forming & organizing Companies of Volunteer Infantry from Exempts. The Gentlemen, who might, if it were their choice, be influential, seem to have been very negligent & inert. They may think & say, Peace! Peace! where there is no Peace.

For myself I have never had but one opinion, the only way to obtain Peace, is to be prepared for all *Contingencies*, even the *worst*.

I am not likely to be reckoned in the number of those, who put their hands to the plough, & look back.

I had very many things to observe, *pour & contre* the actual appearances of Pacification: believing myself somewhat more versed in the relations of our County with foreign nations, than some others who may be disposed to sport more positive opinions on the Subject. But these topics would be infinitely more conveniently treated, *vivâ você*, than with *pen & Ink*.

By our Steady, dispassionate conduct, as it relates to the past; and our firm, vigorous Proceedings of a prospective nature, the federal Government, however adverse it may consider some portions of our policy, has been taught to respect us.

I have thought the further organization of the Corps formed from Exempts, before the Spring Session of the Legislature,

would be a measure productive of considerable good, both within, & with[out] the State.

In all cases, it will be acknowledged, that the interval since the death of our excellent Chief Magistrate, has been filled, not without great Utility & credit to the State, especially in the ulterior arrangements, for rendering the State Corps, efficient & credible to the State.

With Sentiments of high respect

I have the honour to be

Yr M^o Ob^t & M^o h^{ubl} Serv^t

D. HUMPHREYS

His Honour Gov^r SMITH

[Superscribed] His Honour JOHN C. SMITH Lieut Gov^r &
Commander in Chief Sharon (Connecticut) Paid 10

[Endorsed] Col. Humphreys. March 29th 1813.

IRA HART AND OTHERS TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[2:103]

*To his honor John Cotton Smith Esq^r Lieut Gov & Commander
in Chief in & over the State of Connecticut*

Dear Sir

We the subscribers a committee of the inhabitants of Stonington Borough desire respectfully to submit to Your Honor a statement of the critical Situation of this place & the measures adopted by the people for their present defence.

A squadron of British men of war consisting of the La Hogue, & Valiant of 74 Guns with the Nymph Frigate are now cruising within sight of this Village between Block Island & Montauk It is understood from some prisoners which they have put on Shore that another 74 Gun Ship is immediately expected by the Squadron & that they are prepared for a three months cruise with an unusual number of boats & every war-like preparation for a descent when & where they think proper.

The situation of this Village, contiguous to the water & within the reach of their Boats in a short space of time, with sundry vessels in the harbor; at the wharves, & on the stocks;

excites great fears of a surprise & has to a considerable degree alarmed the Inhabitants.

In this perplexity "not knowing what a day may bring forth," they are throwing up works for defence, have established patrols, a guardde. There are here two Eighteen Pounders, a convenient Arsenal with but little Ammunition, & it is thought that one or two brass field pieces would be of peculiar Service in case the boats of the Squadron Should attempt a landing.

Many of the inhabitants of this Village are fishermen greatly distressed by the loss of their business by the war & unable to furnish themselves with arms &c

Should an attempt be made upon us it will doubtless be "a *dash & away* before the neighboring Militia could come to our assistance.

In this situation we naturally look to the gov^t of this State for protection & to You Sir as its worthy Executive for such assistan[ce] as in Your wisdom You Shall deem proper & necessary

With due consideration and respect we
are Your Honor's most obedient humble

Servants IRA HART
 AMOS DENISON
 JO^s SMITH

STONINGTON April 3rd 1813.

[Superscribed] His Honor JOHN COTTON SMITH (Esq^r Lieu^t
Gov^r Con Sharon Mail Paid 12½

[Endorsed] Ira Hart & others com^{ee} of Stonington Borough. 3.
April 1813. Rec^d 15th answered Same day.

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO EBENEZER HUNTINGTON

[2:104]

SHARON 3. April 1813.

Dear Sir,

Several gentlemen in various parts of the State have lately expressed a desire that the Volunteer companies already formed should be organized into regiments &c. I have hitherto

delayed the measure in expectation that farther associations would present themselves, but as the season is now somewhat advanced and it being doubtful whether we can hope for any considerable augmentation of this corps perhaps it will be adviseable to complete its organization. The object of this letter is to request your advice on the following points.

1. Will not eight companies be sufficient for a regiment, thus leaving room for the addition of two more if they should be hereafter raised?
2. Will the subjoined location be as convenient as circumstances will admit? if not please suggest such alterations as occur to you?
3. Will it not be expedient to give the regiments *four* field officers after the example of the Military corps?
4. As the regiments are here numbered, will you be so good as to name to me suitable candidates for the field officers in the *first*. My acquaintance in that quarter is very limited. I have called this the first regiment because I perceive a greater number of companies of early formation are found there than within the limits of any other, but if you consider a different numeration adviseable please to express your opinion on that point also.

Such general reflections as your experience and intelligence in this department may suggest will be highly acceptable to me.

I am somewhat impatient for a farther report of the progress of our little army.

I am D^r Sir sincerely &c. &c.

J. C. S.

Adjutant Gen^l HUNTINGTON.

[Endorsed] To Adjutant Gen^l 3. April 1813.

[Copy]

ANDREW KINGSBURY TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[2:105]

HARTFORD April 6th 1813

The Honorable John C Smith Esq^r

Sir

It has been customary for the Treasurer of the State annually to provide Lodgings for the Election preachers and to give them Seasonable notice where they will be accomodated

Supposing that you might not be acquainted with this custom has induced me to write requesting to be informed who the Preachers are

I am Sir with much Esteem
your Honors most obed^t
& hum^l serv^t

A KINGSBURY

[Superscribed] The Honorable JOHN C SMITH Esq^r Sharon
per Sheriff Landon

[Endorsed] And^w Kingsbury Esq. April 1813.

EBENEZER HUNTINGTON TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[2:106]

NORWICH April 12th 1813

Dear Sir

In obedience to your wishes as contained in your favor of the 3^d of this month I have reflected on the subject of organizing the exempts into regiments, & on the questions submitted for my answers. To the first question I reply that eight companies are amply sufficient, to form a regiment of Exempts. To the 2^d question I answer that the organization as annexed would meet my ideas, & includes the Enfield Company omitted in your list, & is the only variation in forming the regiments, from the arrangement made by you. To the third, I reply that the commissions to be issued, in creating the Field Officers, are to be given to Gentlemen already exempt from ordinary duty, & I perceive no objection to four field officers to each

regiment of exempts, even though their commands should be small.

I think the 2^d Regiment ought to be formed from the Companies in Litchfield County, they having *generally* been accepted & organized before those formed in Hartford County.

I extremely regret the want of punctuality in the recruiting officers in giving to their Colonels & Commandants, notice of their success in recruiting. Since my return to you last month I have received no returns, excepting from Col^o Terry, & from him but only of part of his companies. I have written another circular to the commandants of Corps, & hope it will effect a little more attention to the subject. Had I anticipated *all* the trouble & expence attending the formation of the State Troops, I think my *reluctance* to accepting the command, would have triumphed over *State Pride, Military Pride & Patriotism*, but the expediency of having a State Corps at this eventful period, strikes me with more force, than at the first it was contemplated by me. I wish I could look on the administration of our Country without viewing them as hostilely bent on the destruction of the northern section of the Union, I consider them weak & grossly wicked, & my jealousy leads me to view them more the tools of Bonaparte than is consistent with honest intentions to their own country.

A convention among the Northern States & including New York would be very desireable in every point of view; Union of action is necessary, & preparation to that action, ought to be made early & with most perfect good faith & friendship.

I hope Massachusetts & New Hampshire will feel the necessity of State Troops, & raise their proportion to enable us unitedly to oppose any offered violence. The spirit of patronage by the general government can, & will do much to attach the desperate, & it is those characters only, who are & will be sought after to accept offices.

Accept assurances of respect & esteem, from
yours very sincerely.

EBEN: HUNTINGTON

COLLECTIONS OF THE CONNECTICUT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

1st reg^t

Brooklyn 1 company

Pomfret 2

Woodstock 3

Thomas Grosvenor Col

Killingly 4

James Danielson L^t Col^o

Marlborough 5

Elisha Buell 1st Major

Coventry 6

Elisha Edgerton 2^d Major

East Haddam 7

Plainfield 8

2^d Reg^t

Watertown 1st comp^y

Litchfield 2

Bethlem 3

Fred. Wolcott

Warren 4

James Main

Litchfield S. Farms 5

Aner Bradley

Middlebury 6

D. N. Brinsmade.

Humphreysville 7

Washington N. Preston 8

Washington 1st Society 9

3^d Reg^t Vernon 1st company

E. Windsor 2

E. Windsor 3

Charles Jencks

Hartford 4

John Caldwell

West Hartford 5

Libbeus P. Tinker

Ellington 6

Henry Terry

Windsor 7

Enfield 8

Hartford Cavalry to be attached to 3^d
Regiment

4th Reg^t Harwinton 1st company

Elsworth Society Sharon 2

New Hartford 3

Norfolk 4

Aaron Austin

Cornwall 5

J. W. Phelps

Canton 6

Oliver Burnham

Torrington 7

Farmington 8

His Honor Governor Smith

[Endorsed] Adjutant Gen^l 12th April 1813. Rec^d 15th Organi-
zation of volunteers into regiments &^e &^e

BRIDGEPORT AUTHORITIES TO
JOHN COTTON SMITH

[2:107]

BRIDGEPORT April 12th 1813

Hon^{ble} John C Smith Esq^r L^t Gov^r Sate of Connecticut

Sir

In behalf of the Citizens of this Borough we would inform your Honour that they have agreed to build a Magazine for the safe keeping such ammunition as it may be judged proper to deposit here A magazine will however be of but little use unless we are enabled to keep a guard at the mouth of our harbour to sound the alarm of approaching danger other wise the foe may under cover of the night possess himself of the magazine before we can have any knowledge of his entrance A few men say a Subalterns Guard will answer the purpose but that will be too expensive to be borne by the Citizens of this Borough & its vicinity alone We therefore respectfully suggest to your Honour whether the importance of this place, its exposed situation, true oeconomy, & the policy of this State will not warrant the furnishing at the expence of the state a sufficient guard to watch the approaches of the enemy and thereby enable the militia & other troops if any should be enlisted in this vicinity to act for the preservation of the property here which may in our present condition be a very inviting object to marauders Should a guard be authorized & placed under the superintendence of Col^o Enoch Foot he will gratuitously fulfil the duty assigned

We are Sir

very respectfully your Honours most obed^t
and very humble Serv^{ts}

JOHN S. CANNON	JOSEPH BACKUS	} Civil Authority
LAMBERT LOCKWOOD	WILLIAM PEET	
WILLIAM KING	SAMUEL HAWLEY	Select Men
SALMON HUBBEL		
EZRA GREGORY		
DAVID MINOT		

[Superscribed] His Honour JOHN C SMITH Esquire L^t Gov^r of
the State of Connecticutt Sharon Con. Bridgepört
April 19 Paid 10
[Endorsed] Representation from Bridgeport.

DANIEL PUTNAM TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[2:108]

BROOKLYN 13^h April 1813

Sir,

I have the honor to forward enclosed the tender of service of the Independant Company at Plainfield, as part of the "Military Corps" of this State; the Officers of which, have already been commissioned in said Corps.

Prior to issuing the Commissions, the L^t of the Company had removed into the State of New York without the expectation of returning, and his Commission remains in my hands. I will, at a future time, take the liberty of recommending to your Honor a proper candidate to fill the vacancy. One of the Sergeants of the former Company has also removed, one private discharged for incapacity to do Military duty; and two, who in the first instance volunteer'd, now decline subscribing the inclosed paper, preferring to do duty in the Militia Company. About 30 Recruits have been added to the original company.

I feel it a subject of no little delicacy, to congratulate your Honor on the state of the Votes for Governour in this section of the State, and in *this Town* particularly: for, having been one of those who opposed the appointment of a Governour by the Legislature, I have been unjustly charged with an intention of departing from the "steady habits" of my Country; and no assurance which I could give your friends, would entirely satisfy them of the sincerity of my professions, to the contrary. The case of Gov^r Griswold was cited, without any analogy. I was as candid in avowing my preference for him, as I am sincere in wishing that your election may be sure. In the former case, I felt confident that the appointment of the Legislature would not be confirmed by the Freemen. And in

the latter, I was apprehensive, from the great exertion which was known to be making for another candidate, that the Assembly might be hurried into an act of injustice, offensive to the people, and hazarding the future peace of the State.

I hope that I may always have too much independance to commend where I do not approve, and too much honesty to promise, without the intention to fulfill. It will be no departure from the former when I declare, that I know of no man in the State, who, in point of policy or justice, ought, under existing circumstances, to be preferred before you. And it will be expressing my future intention sincerely, when I assure you, that I feel every disposition, to give, to the administration of the Government in your hands a most cordial support.

I pray you Sir, to pardon these remarks, which are intended only to do away false impressions if any such have been entertained, and that you will be assured of the esteem & respect of,

Your Most Obedient Servant

DAN^l PUTNAM

His Honor JOHN C. SMITH.

[Superscribed] His Honor JOHN COTTON SMITH esq^r L^t Governour & Commander in Chief, Sharon, C^t Brooklyn

C^t Ap^r 15th 10

[Endorsed] Col. Dan^l Putnam.

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO IRA HART AND OTHERS

[2:109]

SHARON 15. April 1813

Gentlemen,

Your letter of the third instant, but without post mark, arrived in the mail of this evening. I am aware of the exposed and defenceless situation of your borough and highly commend the spirited exertions of your citizens. To give greater effect to your efforts allow me to suggest that the Gen^l Assembly at their last Session passed an act authorising the Commander in chief to accept the service of any company of artillery to be formed *from exempts* who may volunteer for that purpose. Should such an association be formed in your vicinity pursuant

to the act it will be supplied with ordnance and the necessary ammunition. At present there is no law empowering me to place the pieces in the hands of any body of citizens not regularly organized as artillerists. But by a resolve of the General Assembly I am enabled to order that ammunition be issued to such companies of artillery as shall be directed to hold themselves in readiness to march for the defence of any part of the Sea coast. I accordingly now forward to the Adjutant General directions to detach an artillery company for your protection & to supply it with the requisite ammunition from a deposit which has already been ordered at Norwich. In case of emergency also it will be competent for the commanding officer of any portion of the militia to march to your assistance, giving notice of his movements as early as may be to his Superiour officer.

The Session of the General Assembly is at hand when I trust every measure will be adopted for the defence of the State which its means and resources will allow.

I am Gentlemen respectfully
your obedient & humble ser^t

J. C. S.

Rev^d IRA HART and AMOS DENISON & JOSEPH SMITH
Esquires.

[Endorsed] To Rev^d Ira Hart & others.

[Copy]

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO
JOSEPH BACKUS AND OTHERS

[2:110]

SHARON 24. April 1813

Gentlemen

Your representation in behalf of the citizens of Bridgeport is received.

The Commander in chief is not authorized by any existing law to make those arrangements for the protection of your borough which its peculiar situation seems evidently to require. It is presumed the General Assembly at the approaching session will bestow the earliest attention upon the subject of

providing means of defence at the most exposed points on the Sea-coast. Your request gentlemen will undoubtedly be submitted to their notice.

I am Gentlemen respectfully
your very obedient Servant
J. C. SMITH

Jos. BACKUS Esquire and others
civil authority &c

[Endorsed] To Jos. Backus Esq^r & others. Copy.

DISTRIBUTION OF AMMUNITION

[2:111[

Distribution of Ammunition

New Haven	Musket	
on hand	11,000	
		108 field Cartridges 6 pound ^r
to have in addition	22,000	108 6 pounder d ^o
		100 3 pounder d ^o
		100 2 d ^o
1000 flints		
New London on hand	11,000	108 field 6
to have in addition	11,000	108 d ^o
1000 flints		
Norwich on hand	11,000	108 d ^o 6
to have in addition	11,000	108 d ^o 6
1000 flints		100 d ^o 3
		100 d ^o 2
Fairfield County to have	20,000	108 d ^o 6
1000 flints		100 d ^o 3
Hartford say	200,000	Musket Cartridges
	1000	6 lb
	600	3
	202	2
400 Shot		
200 stands arms.		
1 load powder.		

[Endorsed] Distribution of Ammunition recommended by the
Ad. Gen^l & Q. M. General. May 1813.

JOSHUA P. BURNHAM TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[2:112]

HARTFORD 3^d May 1813.

Sir

I beg leave to request orders from your Honor, when & at what Hour on the Day previous to the Election, I Shall have the Honor to meet you, with your Honors Horse Guards under my Command, your order p. Return post will much Oblige

S^r your Most Ob^t Serv^t

JOSHUA P. BURNHAM Comd^t

Gov^{rs} Horse Guards

His Honor JOHN COTTON SMITH Sharon

[Superscribed] His Honor, JOHN COTTON SMITH Sharon Conn^t
M^r Perkins

[Endorsed] Major Burnham of the Horse Guards May 3rd 1813.

AMAZIAH BRAY TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[2:113]

KILLINGWORTH

May 4th 1813

His Honor J. C. Smith

Sir

having understood that Some of the Pieces which were ordered to be Mounted for the artillery belonging to the State corps, are finished. I take the liberty of praying your Honor (at the repeated request of the Inhabitants in this vacinity) to order the Pieces Intend for the use of this company belonging at this Harbour, to be sent as soon as would be consistent. we Should not be *this anxious* did not our Local Situation require It.

This Town your Honor will recollect is peculiarly exposed to the sudden attacks of Small Parties from the Enemy's vessels in the Sound. & we destitute of the means of making any resistance. of the four Companies of artillery, this is the only one Situated on the *Sea Shore*, the other being some Distance from the Shore, which fact in our opinion is a Strong argument why those Pieces which are completed Should be sent to this Harbour or the company Stationed here. I have conversed

with Major Stantly on the Subject who will Express an opinion at this time. there are two pieces finished at New Haven, or nearly finished.

I am with due respect

Your Ob^t Serv^t

AMAZIAH BRAY

His Honor J. C. SMITH

[Superscribed] His Honor JOHN C SMITH Lieut Gov. of Connecticut Sharon New Haven Ct May 4 Paid 10

[Endorsed] Capt. Am^h Bray. & Major W Stanley.

WILLIAM STANLEY TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[2:113]

NEW HAVEN May 4th 1813

His Honor J C Smith

Sir the Companys of Artillery which are Raised for the Defence of this state which I have the honour to Command are nerely full of Chois men I hope by the 12 Inst^t to return them nerely Compleat, the Officers of the severall Company are Anxious that there ordinance particularly Captⁿ Bray the town in which he lives being more exposed there to the enemy than the other towns

I would therefore pray your honour to order them to be Delivered as soon as is Expedient

I am with due Respect

Your Ob^t Servant

His Honor J C SMITH

W^m STANLEY

RESOLVE OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[2:114]

At a General Assembly of the State of Connecticut holden at Hartford in Said State on the Second Thursday of May A. D. 1813.

Whereas, it may be inconvenient to the Government of the United States by reason of the War to deliver to this State the Arms to Which the State is entitled by the Act of Congress passed in April A D 1808 from those which have already been Manufactured,

Resolved that the Governour be Authorized to Consent to receive Such Arms as this State is entitled to at Such future period as he may Judge reasonable from those Which Eli Whitney Esquire a Citizen of this State has Contracted to Manufacture on account of the United States.

A true Copy of Record

Examined by

THOMAS DAY, Sec^y

[Endorsed] Resolve authorizing receipt of arms from E. Whitney Esq^r

RESOLVE OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[2:115]

At a General Assembly of the state of Connecticut holden at Hartford in Said State on the Second Thursday of May A D 1813,

Resolved by this Assembly that the Quarter Master General of the Militia of this State under the direction of the commander in chief Contract for and purchase for the use of this State One Field Officer's Tent, Fourteen Wall Tents, and One hundred Soldiers' Tents of Good Substantial tow Cloth Six hundred Camp Kittles, of Sheet Iron Three thousand Canteens, One hundred Axes, and One hundred pick Axes ready for use, One hundred Spades four thousand pounds weight of grape Shot Five thousand Artillery Tubes ready for use and two Covered two horse Waggons, and report the expence thereof to the General Assembly and the Same Keep Safely deposited Subject to the order of the Commander in cheif or the General Assembly and that the expence thereof be defrayed from the Treasury of this State from the Dividends of Bank Stock and the Interest and instalments of the debt of the United States unappropriated and Belonging to this State,

A true Copy of Record

Examined by

THOMAS DAY, Secretary

[Endorsed] Resolve directing the purchase of Munitions of war &c Copy.

RESOLVE OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[2:116]

At a General Assembly of the State of Connecticut holden at Hartford in said State on the second Thursday of May A. D. 1813.

Resolved by this Assembly, that the Commander in Chief of the State be and he is hereby requested to cause examination to be had into the Condition of sundry Iron Field-pieces and other Ordinance, which were used in the Revolutionary War, and are now in this State. And to cause to be mounted on travelling or other Carriages, ready for use, such of them, as in his opinion, the defence & interests of the State requires, and the expence of the same shall be paid from the Treasury of this State

A true Copy of record

Examined by

THOMAS DAY, Sec^y

[Endorsed] Resolve authorizing mounting of iron field pieces.

RESOLVE OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[2:117]

At a General Assembly of the State of Connecticut holden at Hartford in Said State on the Second Thursday of may A D 1813.

Resolved by this Assembly that the Quarter Master General under the Direction of the Commander in cheif of the Militia, purchase for the Use of this State Twelve hundred pounds weight of Ball, Suitable for the two pound Field Peices belonging to this State and hold the Same ready for use,

A true Copy of Record

Examined by

THOMAS DAY, Sec^y

[Endorsed] Resolve directing the purchase of 1200lb 2lb Shot—

RESOLVE OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[2:118]

At a General Assembly of the State of Connecticut holden at Hartford in said State on the second Thursday of May A. D. 1813.

Resolved by this Assembly, that the Commander in Chief of the State be and he is hereby Authorized, to cause to be purchased for the use of the State such further quantity of Ball, for the Field pieces, and other Ordinance of the State, as also such Camp Equipments & other Munitions of War, as in his opinion are, or in the course of events may be found to be necessary to the defence and protection of the State, and that the expence thereof be paid from the Treasury of this State.

A true Copy of record

Examined by

THOMAS DAY, Sec^y

[Endorsed] Resolve directing or authorizing the purchase of cannon ball, camp equipage and munitions generally

RESOLVE OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[2:119]

At a General Assembly of the State of Connecticut holden at Hartford in said State on the second Thursday of May A. D. 1813.

Resolved by this Assembly, that the Commander in chief be and he is hereby authorised at his discretion to order out such portion of the Military force of this State to be stationed at such place or places upon the sea board as he may deem expedient. And also to relieve, augment or discharge such force, at such time or times as in his opinion the safety of the state may require or admit, and to direct the proper officer or officers to procure for, and furnish the Troops so called out, with all necessary supplies, and that he be empowered to draw on the Treasurer of this State from time to time, for such sums

of money as may be necessary to effect the objects of this Resolution.

And be it further resolved, that the ordnance, arms, ammunition and other Impliments of War, belonging to this state be at all times subject to the order and direction of the Commander in Chief of this militia of the State.

A true Copy of Record

Examined by

THOMAS DAY, Sec^y

[Endorsed] Resolve concerning the defence of the State.

CHESTER CHILD TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[2:120]

WOODSTOCK May 10th 1813

Sir,

In obedience to a Commission, received from you, conferring the command of the Woodstock Volunteer Company on me; I thought it incumbent on me to call on them to meet on the first monday of May instant with their arms and accoutrements as the law directs; not knowing whether they had provided themselves with arms or not. It appears, however, to be the opinion of about one half of the Company that it is not the intent of the act of the Legislature to empower the Captain to call on his company of Volunteers for review or military exercise without special orders from the Commander in Chief.

By giving me your opinion on the subject you will much oblige your most Obt

and humble Servant

CHESTER CHILD Capt

Woodstock Volunteer Co

His Honor JOHN COTTON SMITH

[Superscribed] His Honor JOHN COTTON SMITH Lieut. Gov. & Commander in Chief of the State of Connecticut

[Endorsed] Capt. Chester Child of the volunteers.

PHINEAS PECK TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[2:121]

To His Excellency John C. Smith Governor and Commander in chief in & over the State of Connecticut.

The memorial of Phineas Peck of Woodbridge in the County of New Haven, humbly sheweth, that in the year 1811 in the Month of October, your Memorialist was appointed & Commisioned as a Captain in the 2^d Comp^y of Granadiers in the 32^d Regiment of Militia in this State, that he then took the Command of s^d Company; at that time consisting of 1 Captⁿ 1 Lieut 1 Ensign 4 Serjts 4 Corpl^s 1 Drumer 1 Fifer and 36 Privates, that since that time in consequence of a numbor of s^d Company's Inlisting into the Govenor's Guard and other Casualties the s^d Company is at thise time reduced to the numbor of 1 Captain 2 Serjt^s 1 Corporal & Nineteen privates, and no prospect of their ever being filled up, and the former Ambition & Spirrit of the Company being much depressed, Whereupon your Memorealst prays your Excellency, that s^d Company may be Desolved, and that your Memorialist may be discharged from Military duty, and that the remainder of s^d Comp^y may be Transfered to the other Companie's the most Contiguous in s^d Regiment, or that your Excellency & the Honorable Gen^l Assembly would in some other way grant relief as your Memorialist in duty bound will ever pray, Dated at WOODBRIDGE the 11th day of May AD 1813

PHINEHAS PECK Captⁿ

[Superscribed] His Excellency John C. Smith Governor & Commander in chief over the State of Connecticut Hartford.

[Endorsed] Capt. Phineas Peck's Memorial.

JOEL OSBORN TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[2:122]

To the Hon^{ble} John Cotton Smith, Commander in chief of the Connecticut militia. The petition of Joel Osborn of the town & county of New Haven humbly sheweth, that in April 1812

your Petitioner, enlisted into the 2nd troop of Gov^s Horse Guards. That previous to said enlistment, your petitioner was enrolled as a private in the 4th troop 2nd Regiment of Cavalry then under command of Captain (now Major) Oliver Clarke. Since your petitioner has been enlisted into the Guards, Major Clarke claims that the enlistment, of your Petitioner into the Guards was illegal, & has ordered your petitioner to be fined for non-attendance to the parades of said 4th troop of Cavalry on the 14th & 15th of September last past, & on the 29th of April 1813 your petitioner had notice from Major Clarke, that he was fined as aforesaid. Now your Petitioner appeals from the decision of Major Clarke, imposing a fine as aforesaid, to the decision of your Honour as by law required, & prays your honour to take his case into your wise consideration & appoint a day when your petitioner & said Major Clarke may be heard in the premises. All which is respectfully Submitted. NEW HAVEN May 11th 1813

JOEL OSBORN

[Endorsed] Joel Osborns Appeal

STEPHEN DICKERMAN TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[2:123]

To the Honourable John Cotton Smith commander in Chief of the Connecticut Militia the Petition of Stephen Dickerman of the town & county of New Haven humbly sheweth, that in May 1812 your Petitioner enlisted into the 2nd troop of Gov^{rs} Horse Guards. That previous to said enlistment, your petitioner was enrolled as a private in the 4th company 2nd Regiment of Cavalry, then under command of Captain (now Major) Oliver Clarke. Since your petitioner has been enlisted in the Guards, Major Clarke claims that the enlistment of your petitioner into the Guards was illegal, & has ordered your petitioner to be fined for non attendance at the parades of said 4th Company of Cavalry on the 14th & 15th of September last past & on the 29th of April 1813 your petitioner had notice from Major Clarke that he was fined as aforesaid

Now your Petitioner appeals from the decision of Major Clarke imposing a fine as aforesaid, to the decision of your Honour, as by law required & prays your Honour, to take his case into your wise consideration, & appoint a day when your petitioner & said Major Clarke may be heard in the premises. All which is respectfully Submitted NEW HAVEN May 11th A D 1813

STEPHEN DICKERMAN

[Endorsed] Stephⁿ Dickerman Appeal To be heard on thursday 20th

ELIPHALET TERRY TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[2:124]

HARTFORD May 14. 1813.

To His Excellency

John Cotton Smith Esquire, Governor.

Sir,

Having done duty in the first Company of the Governor's Foot Guards for the period of thirteen years, viz, as a private three, non commissioned Officer Six, and as a Lieutenant four years, I now have the honor to resign my Commission. I pray your Excellency to accept my resignation, as also my warmest thanks for unmerited distinction which the Commission has conferred.

May your Excellency be long blessed with health, and be happy in the affections of the People.

I have the Honor to be

Your Excellency's

Most ob^t Hum^e Serv^t

ELIPHALET TERRY

[Superscribed] To His Excellency JOHN COTTON SMITH Esq^r
Gov^r of the State of Conn^t

[Endorsed] Lieut. E. Terry's Resignation. 1. C^o Foot Guards.
Not accepted.

THADDEUS HARRISON TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[2:125]

BRANFORD May 15th: 1813

To his Excellency John Cotton Smith Esq Captain General of the Connecticut Militia

The Memorial of Thaddeus Harrison Captain of the first Troop in the Second Regiment of Cavalry Respectfully represents that the limits to Which he is Confined in inlisting recruits are so small as to produce Serious Difficulty and embarrassment invoving him perpetually in unpleasant controversies with the infantry Officers he Therefore prays that your Excellency will be pleased to order and Direct that the town of Guilford be transfered from the second to the First Troop. The second troop extends over the Towns of Guilford Killingworth Saybrook & haddam covering a Large tract of Territory and includeind Fifteen infantry Companies with 811 Privates The first Troop Extends to Branford Easthaven Northaven & hamden includeing only Eight infantry Companies with 320 private The Companies within the Limits of the First troop are all so small as to Render a Recurrence to the Brigadier General nesasary in the case of each enlistment into the Cavalry. The Second Company of Horse Guards Have the Privilege of Enlisting From Every part of the Limits of the First troop under the Command of your Memorilist & the Newhaven artillary & Foot Guards Have the Like privilege except in regard to Branford. If Guilford is transfered From the Second to the First Troop, the present great inequality in their Limits will be Chiefly Removed. there was Formerly but Two troops of Horse on the coast between the Connecticut and Housatonic rivers The western troop in 1795 was Divided into two, the Eastern has Remained with its orignal Limits, which circumstances account For the Diverssity of extent now existing. The Subject of the Memorial has been mentioned Frequently to the officers and Privates of the second Troop and has alway Received their approbation Very Few members of that Troop reside in Guilford on account of its Remote Situation. there are Few enlistments From that Town. The sub-

scriber is persuaded that there is no objection among any of the officers or Privates of The Brigade to the proposed alteration and he is induced to hope that your Excellency will be Pleased authorise him to enlist hereafter From the infantry Companies in the Town of Guilford Subject to such Conditions and Restrictions as are by Law provided and is in Duty Bound he will ever pray

THADDEUS HARRISON

Capt 1 Troop; 2 Reig Cavalry

[Endorsed] Memorial of Capt. Thad^s Harrison. Cavalry.
Referred him to the Brigadier Gen^l

EBENEZER HUNTINGTON TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[2:126]

NORWICH 17 May 1813

Dear sir

Since my return of the 30 April inclosed to your excellency, I have rec^d from Col Putnam under date of the 11 Instant a return of the men inlisted into the 2^d regiment, making a total of four hundred & forty four, (& in the return forwarded to you was three hundred & ninety five,) which is the only return rec^d since the 30th of April. After receiving your directions in March respecting Cap^t Middletons company, I wrote Col Putnam, that it was necessary for Cap^t Middletons company to inlist agreeably to the terms of the act, & wished him to call on Cap^t Middleton for that purpose & obtain the necessary evidence of their inlisting or volunteering under the act, but he has as yet furnished me with no evidence of their volunteering. accept my congratulations that the freemen of this state have by their suffrages, called you to the executive chair, & permit me to add, that they have associated with you so respectable a man as Chauncey Goodrich for an assistant when wanted.

I am your very humble servant

EBEN: HUNTINGTON

His Excellency Governor SMITH

[Superscribed] His Excellency Gov^r SMITH Hartford Norwich
May 18 8

[Endorsed] Gen^l E. Huntington 17. May 1813

ROBERT GATES TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[2:127]

*To John Cotton Smith Esq^r Commander in Chief of the Forces
of the State of Connecticut*

Sir,

The enclosed commission made out for Truman Coe as Second Lieutenant of the 3^d Company of Artillery of this State has been refused by him. We are not acquainted with any other course to be pursued than to return the commission & solicit a new appointment. Lyman Smith Jun^r is at Present third Lieutenant of the 3^d company. If it should appear correct to your Excellency & the honorable Council, we should think the interests of the Company would be best promoted by the appointment of L. Smith Jun^r Second Lieutenant & Samuel Durand Third Lieutenant of s^d company.

We are your Excellency's

Most Obed^t & faithful

Serv^{ts}

ROBERT GATES Captⁿ

J L TOMLINSON 1st Lieu^t

of 3^d Comp. Artlery

DERBY May 18th 1813

[Superscribed] To his Exc^y JOHN COTTON SMITH Esq^r Hartford
[Endorsed] Capt. Gates Artillery Enclosing T. Coe's commission & nominating a successor.

REUBEN MANN TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[2:128]

*To his Excelencey John Cotton Smith
Commander in Chief in and over the State of Connecticut*

Sir Samuel Kellogg Ensign in the 3rd Company & 12 Reg^t of Connecticut Militia has removed to East Hartford out of the limits of the Company, Reg^t & Brigade. If I would have

orders to lead the Company to the choice of one in his room it would meet the wishes of

Your Obedient Servnt
REUBEN MANN Cap^t

HEBRON May the 18, 1813

[Superscribed] His Exçelly JOHN COTTON SMITH Govener
Hartford

[Endorsed] Capt. Mann. requesting order to lead to the choice of an ensign. order issued 28. May 1813.

WALTER MITCHELL TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[2:129]

HARTFORD 20th May 1813.

His Excellency Governour Smith

Sir,

I am under the necessity of tendering to your Excellency my resignation of the Commission which I hold as third Lieutenant in the First Company of the Governour's Foot Guards. I have served in that Company as a Private or an Officer for Thirteen years & during that time discharged my duty, I hope, to the satisfaction of the public, & would further suggest that I have the Honour to hold a Commission of Justice of the Peace. I therefore solicit of your Excellency the acceptance of my resignation, feeling at the same time a high sense of gratitude for the honour conferred on me by the Legislature.

With the greatest respect I am

Your Excellencys Ob^t H^{bel} Sert

WALTER MITCHELL.

[Superscribed] His Excellency, GOVERNOUR SMITH Hartford

[Endorsed] Lieut. W. Mitchell of the Guards Resignation.
accepted.

RETURN OF MILITARY AND ORDNANCE STORES

[2:130]

Return of Field Artillery, military and ordnance stores belonging to the State of Connecticut, May 1813.

PAPERS OF JOHN COTTON SMITH

8 brass field pieces, 6 lb Caliber	} all in the hands of the Massachusetts Companies belonging to the Militia.
8 d° d° d° 3 lb d°	
3 d° d° d° 2 lb d°	
2 Iron d° d° 3 lb d°	

These pieces are at the following places, viz,

New Haven, 2. 6. lb^{rs}, and 2.2 lb^{rs}

Hartford, 1. 6 lb^r and 1. 3 lb^r the 3 lb. at Branford

Norwich, 1. 6. lb^r

Lyme, 1. 6. lb^r

Norwalk, 1. 6. lb^r

Bridgeport, 1. 6. lb^r

Sharon, 2. 3. lb^{rs} (one at Branford)

Hebron, 1. 6. lb^r

Killingley, 1. 3. lb^r

Danbury, 1. 3. lb^r

Washington, 1. 3. lb^r .

Bristol, 2. 3. lb^{rs} one at Guilford.

Tolland, 1, 2. lb^r

Brookline, 2. 3. lb^{rs}, Iron.

Windham — Fairfield —

I believe the above statement in regard to the location of the artillery is nearly correct, perhaps not perfectly so, it is the best I can make from all the documents in my possession.

In addition to this, there are 8 new brass 6 lb^{rs}, 4 of which are at New Haven, 3 at New London, and one at Albany, the whole of which I presume are at this time mounted and completely fitted for the field; the one at Albany I expect to have bro't into this State in a short time.

12,000 lb^s Gun powder, at the powder houses, East Hartford.

100000 Gun flints in the Court house, Hartford.

22,000 lb^s musket balls d° d° d°

8.Tons 6 lb. Cannon shot d° d° d°

3. d° 3 lb. d° d° d° d° d°

½ d° 2 d° d° d° at New Haven

1000 Cartouch boxes in Court house, Hartford.

2125. Muskets d° d° d°

700. due from M^r. Whitney in all this month.

800. now ready for delivery at Pittsfield.

275. contracted for, to be dl^d. by 1st Sept^r next.

1000 contracted for, to be dl^d in Nov^r next.

100 in the hands of Comp. Guards, New Haven.

5000 Muskets.

50. d^o Recc^d from Comp. Guards, N. Haven, now at Whitney's factory.

1000 Cartouch boxes to be dl^d first week in June next

1000. d^o d^o to be dl^d first week in August next

From the above quantity of Gun powder said to be in powder houses, East Hartford, must be deducted 500 lb^s sent to New London, 500 lb^s sent to Norwich, and 1000 lb^s to New Haven; also from the musket balls 600 lb^s sent to New London; 600 lb^s to Norwich, and 600 lb^s to N. Haven; also from the 6 lb Cannon shot 108 in number sent to each of the above mentioned places; this ammunition is all prepared, or made into cartridges, boxed, and ready for immediate use; I have also sent 100 lb^s of pistol balls to New Haven, with directions to have them put into cartridges. 600 lb^s musket balls make about 11100 cartridges.

JOHN MIX Q M Gen^l Conn^t Militia.

HARTFORD May 22^d 1813.

8 new pieces. distributed as follows.

2 at New London

2 at Killingworth

2 at Saybrook.

1 at Guilford.

1 at Derby.

8

[Endorsed] Return of Military & ordnance State of Connecticut. May 1813.

ELEAZER FOSTER TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[2:131]

NEW HAVEN May 22. 1813.

Sir,

I take the liberty to represent to Your Excellency that I have faithfully performed military duty, ever since I have been by law, liable to do the same. I have served in the various lower grades and for more than two years past I have had the honour to hold a commission of 3^d Lieutenant in the 2^d Company of Governors Foot Guards. Although I have a strong attachment to the company and feel a lively interest in its future improvements and good discipline, yet as my health is generally too feeble to endure the fatigue of my necessary duty, I am induced to ask for a discharge. I am also induced to make this request from the consideration that a great proportion of my time is devoted to the service of the public.

I therefore tender this my resignation and beg your Excellency to accept the same.

This communication will be delivered by the Hon. E. Goodrich, who will have it in his power to state more particularly the reasons which may entitle me to a discharge.

I am with great respect

Your Excellency's

Most Obed^t & Hum. Ser^t

ELEAZER FOSTER

His Excellency JOHN COTTON SMITH.

[Superscribed] His Excellency JOHN COTTON SMITH Hartford
Con^t per Hon. E. Goodrich.

[Endorsed] Lieut. Eleazer Foster's resignation. not accepted
at present. accepted 28th Oct. 1813. order issued same day.

NATHANIEL TERRY TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[2:132]

HARTFORD May 24th 1813

His Excellency Gov. Smith

Sir

In consequence of being appointed to the command, of one of the Regiments of State Troops, it has become inconvenient

for me, any longer to hold the office, of Commander of the first Company of the Governor's foot guards, & under circumstances that may occur, the two offices, would become incompatible with each other; I therefore request your Excellency, to accept my resignation of the command of the guards, & to grant me a dismissal accordingly. I am with

the highest respect your Excellency's
mo. obed^t serv^t NATH^l TERRY

[Superscribed] His Excellen^y Gov^r SMITH Hartford

[Endorsed] Major N. Terry's Resignation as com^t of 1. Comp.
Foot guards. Accepted. 24. May 1813

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO ELIPHALET TERRY

[2:133]

HARTFORD 24. May 1813.

Sir

I have maturely considered your application to be dismissed from the office of Lieutenant of the first company of footguards, and, sincerely disposed as I am to gratify you personally. I must inform you that a Sense of public duty forbids a compliance with your request.

Your merit Sir as an officer, and a citizen and the critical state of our national affairs constitute a claim upon your Services which, I am confident, you will find upon reflection it is impossible to resist.

I cordially reciprocate your kind wishes for my individual prosperity, and am Sir with

real regard your friend and obedient
Servant

JOHN COTTON SMITH.

M^r E. TERRY.

[Endorsed] To Lieut. E. Terry.

[Copy]

IRAD STORRS TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[2:134]

Sir, In the spring of 1812 I rec^d an Ensigns commission in the Ligth Infantry company in the 5th Reg^t of Connecticut militia, having since rec^d the appointment of 3rd Leut^t in the United States service, I deem it a duty to give information thereof and to request Your Excellency to grant me a dismissal from duty as ensign in s^d company.

Sir with due respect Your Excellencies Obedient Servant

IRAD STORRS.

To His Excellency JOHN C. SMITH

MANSFIELD May 24th 1813

[Superscribed] His Excellency JOHN C. SMITH Esq^r Hartford

[Endorsed] Ensign Irad Storrs's request to be discharged L.

Infantry 5th Reg^t accepted. order issued to fill vacancy.

DANIEL BICKNELL TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[2:135]

To his Excellency the Gov. of the State Conn.

Sir

Having from feelings of Patriotism, engaged in the service of my Country, acting under the Government of the United-States; and having rec^d a commission from the same, I feel myself under the necessity of resigning my commission under the State Government, which I here by do with cheerfulness.

DANIEL BICKNELL

Done at MANSFIELD this 24th day of May A D. 1813.

Hon. JN^o C. SMITH

[Note by Gov. Smith] Bicknell is Lieutenant in 6th comp.

5th Reg^t Issue an order to Elisha

Brigham captain of 6th comp. 5th

Reg^t

[Superscribed] Hon. JOHN C. SMITH Gov. State C^t Hartford C^t

[Endorsed] Lieut. Dan^l Bicknell's Application to be discharged.

Discharged. order issued to the Capt. to fill vacancy.

[2:136]

LEBANON May 24th 1813

I Certify that Cap^t Jonathan Trumbull of the 8th Company in the Reg^t under my Command is in good Standing in his s^d office.

I would also State that from information on which I can depend Cap^t Trumbulls health is such that he is not able to do Military duty

ZEBDIEL HYDE L^t Col. Comd^t

12th Reg^t

[Endorsed] Capt. Jon^a Trumbull recommended for a discharge.

Discharged. Issued order to Capt. Trumbull to fill vacancy

[2:138]¹

MANSFIELD May 20th 1813.

This may certify that Cap^t Luther Topliff of the Light Infantry Company in the Regiment under my Command, has served in s^d capacity for the term of Three years, is in good standing as an Officer, & is now wishing to be dismissed from further Military service on the ground of ill health. I have no objection to his request being granted

JN^o SALTER Lieu^t Col. Comd^t

5th Reg^t

[Endorsed] Col. Salter's certificate recommending Capt. Topliff for a discharge.

PETITION TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[2:139]

To His Excellency John Cotton Smith,

Sir, Understanding that Ashbel W. Robbins a native of Wethersfield now resident in Hartford, is desirous of entering the service of the State of Connecticut in the capacity of a Subaltern Officer in the Corps ordered by the Legislature at their Session in October last to be raised for the defence of the State, do certify that he belongs to a respectable Family in

¹Document 2:137 is an advertisement from W. L. Andrews, Philadelphia announcing publication of an edition of the *Elementary Military Discipline*.

PAPERS OF JOHN COTTON SMITH

Wethersfield & believe he has ambition sufficient to qualify him for such an appointment.

HARTFORD May 27th 1813. JOSEPH BULKLEY
EZEK^l P BELDEN
JOSEPH TRUMBULL
JAMES WARD

HARTFORD June 1st 1813

I take the liberty to remark to your Excellency that in my opinion, M^r Robbins is a suitable person to be appointed to fill the vacancy of a subaltern Officer in the 9th Company, I am your Excellys

Mo obed^t serv^t

NATH^l TERRY

[Note by Gov Smith] Robbins is appointed.

[Superscribed] His Excellency JOHN COTTON SMITH Hartford
[Endorsed] Jos. Bulkley &^c recommendation of A. W. Robbins.
Mil. Corps.

CHAUNCEY WHITTELSEY TO JOHN COTTON SMITH
[2:140]

Friday Morning.

May 28, 1813

Sir

M^r John Fisk of Ellington has been nominated as Ensign in the 8th Comp^y 2 Regiment by Major Smith & the officers of the 8th Comp^y & from the assurances of the officers that his nomination would probably meet with your approbation has been enlisting for that Company. From the information I have been able to obtain, I cheerfull unite in his nomination

With respect

yr Excell^y Ob^t S^t CH: WHITTELSEY

Maj^r 2 Reg^t

State Troops

His Excellency

Govenor SMITH

[Superscribed] His Excellency GOVENOR SMITH

[Endorsed] Major Whittelsey's recommendation

JOHN BEACH TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[2:141]

To his Excellency John Cotton Smith Governor and Commander in Chief in and over the State of Connecticut

Sir, feeling myself Aggriev'd by the conduct and performance of the 2^d Company 27th Reg^t Conn. Militia in their choice of a Lieu^t and Ensign on monday last, being Superceded in both Choices, (claiming the Lieutenancy by Senior office)

Your humble petitioner would pray that a Special delegation be granted on his behalf to Brigadier Gen^l James Merri-
man directing him to Grant a discharge to your humble Sevant
all which is humbly Submitted

JOHN BEACH

Dated at BRANFORD this 28th day of May, 1813

[Superscribed] His Excellency JOHN C. SMITH

[Endorsed] Sergeant Beech's request to be discharged

RUFUS PALMER TO JAMES MERRIMAN

[2:142]

BRANFORD May 28th 1813

*To James Merriman Brigadier General 2^d
Brigade Connecticut Militia*

Sir, M^r John Beach has been the oldest Sergeant in the 2^d Company 27th Reg^t and has faithfully performed the first Sergeants duty to my full Satisfaction during my Command of S^d Company, and on the S^d Comp^y's being brought to a Choice of a Lieut & Ensign the S^d Beach was superceded in both of S^d Offices. It is my Sincere opinion that Said Beach ought to be discharged from Military duty

RUFUS PALMER

Capt the 2^d Company

the 27 Regt

[Endorsed] Cap^t Palmers Certificate

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO EBENEZER HUNTINGTON

[2:143]

31. May 1813.

Sir,

In consequence of a representation made to me by some of the Brigadier Generals of the militia I have thought proper to allow the several Brigade Majors and inspectors to wear an epaulette upon each shoulder any thing in my former order to the contrary notwithstanding. You will be pleased to announce the alteration to them accordingly.

I am Sir &c

Adjutant General.

[Endorsed] Order. de badges of Brigade inspectors Copy.

CHAUNCY HALL TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[2:144]

R^t Hon: Sir

The Within Closed is the Copy of a Statement that I have made and the Plan and the Ideas of an Aparatus to Defend Harbors Rivers and the Coast of the United States I have Wrote the Same on the 24th Nov: 1812 and Directed to the Hon: the Representatives of the United States in Congress and to the Hon: the Mayor and Alderman of the City of New York Whether they have been Read or no Yet I am Willing to Give my Reasons for any Part Proposition or Section of the Same before any Respetable Judges or Auditory

With the Greatest Respect and Esteem

I Remain Yours &c CHAUNCY HALL

MERIDEN May 31st 1813

His Eccelency JOHN COTTON SMITH Esq

[Superscribed] His Eccelency JOHN COTTON SMITH Esq Hartford Connecticut Meriden C^t June 1st 16 8 24

[Endorsed] Chauncy Hall May 31. 1813.

CHAUNCY HALL'S STATEMENT

[2:145]

I have Considered that there is no Circumstance Station or Place in this World but that Can be made Better Richer and

Happier or more Agreeable with the Produce or Assistance from other Parts or Places Yea in the Richest Mines a man Can Do nothing but Pine Perish and Die Without Some Frindly Assistance and the Produce of other Places And it Appears that the Transgressions of man has brought all the Troubles Pains Miserys and Will be the final Distruction of this Teraqueous Globe Yet of all the Evil Calamitous Scourges War is the most Cruel for it moves With Savage Ferocity Destroying Indiscriminately all that is Near and Dear Unto man in this Life Yet Whether Declareing War be Just or No Yet there is a few and Verry few Momentuous Circumstances, that will Justify a man in Hazzarding his Life to Maintain and Defend

and being informed that War was Declared to Exist between the United States and the United Kingdom of Great Britan and Ireland I Wrote July the 9th 1812 to the Honorable Mayor and Alderman of the City of New York and on July 31st I Wrote to the Hon: the Secretary of State and Stated to them that I had formed a Plan and the Ideas of an Aparatus to Defend Harbors Rivers and the Coast of the United States I had the Honor of Receiveing an Answer from the Department of State with Some Good Advice but I Wrote the Reasons Why I Could not Except of the Advice on the 31st August 1812 and Directed it to the Hon: the Secretary of State and informed him that if he Would be Pleased to Send me a Word in Writing that he had Re'd my Letter I Would Immediately or as Soon as may be Put my Plan and Ideas in Writing and Transmit them to him but I have not Rec'd an Answer Yet the following is my Ideas of the Plan and Aparatus but Should any ask why they were not Given Delivered or told before I Would Refer to the Postscript

Being Some Acquainted of the Harbor of New York I Shall Consider it as the Basis of the following Propositions to Defend Harbors Rivers and the Coast Against any Naval Force

By the Narrows that run between Long island and Stratten Island on the Side that the Channel is the best Enclose a Convenient Piece of Land With a Wall the End of the Wall on the

Outer Side of the Harbor to Extend into twelve feet of Water the Wall to Slope inward on the out Side from the botom to the top or 40 or 45 Degrees and at a Proper Distance from that Wall in the inside Raise another Wall and between the Walls Set Strong Arches and Upon them P a Strong Platform then Mount a Number of Heavy Pieces of Ordinance Upon the Platform Then Build a Strong Pier on the Opposite Side of the Channel against the Wall fasten a Number of Strong Staples or Ringbolts in the Pier then Build a Platform on the Ground by the Inner Wall and Set a Number of Strong Windlasses upon it Then Build a Strong Kennel Somewhat Like a Scow with a Deck to it and A Strong Ringbolt in the bottom then Mount a Number of Stout Heavy Dogs of War or Cannon upon the Deck of the Kennel then build a Covering for them then fasten a Number of Stout Strong tackles or Running Riggins to the Staples in the Pier then fasten the other ends to the Windlasses on the Platform then fasten a Strong hook to the Riggins the Hook to be fastened to the Ringbolt in the Kennel When she is to be Launched off Then Build — Suppose any Shape or form but Say Like a Barrel then build a Small frame that Will Contain a Number of Springs and flints Set Somewhat Like a Gun Lock the Springs to be Gethered and Let off by a Wheel Put the frame in near one End then make a Cover of Sheat Iron or tin and Punch it full of Small holes Let it Come to the Bottom on one Side then make a Strong hoop of Iron with a Strong tube of Iron 8 or 10 inches in Length and 2 or 3 inches in Diameter with a Strong Staple on Each Side of the tube and an other Staple one fourth of the Circle from the tube then Drive the hoop on 2 or 3 inches from the End and Rivit it Strong then bore through the Iron tube into the inside and Drive in a Strong wooden bung facet then take a Strong Cord or Clue Line and Wind it 3 or 4 times Around the Wheel one End being fastened to the Wheel then Reave it through the tube then make Sheath of Leather tarred or oiled Cloth that will Stop or turn the Water then fasten it tight to the Bung facet the Sheath to be of a Sufficient Length to Draw all Clue Line off from the Wheel then fasten it tight to the End of the Clue Line that is Rove through the tube then

fold the Sheath up into the tube then fasten a Strong hook to the End of the Clue Line that is out from the Sheath then make a Sheath of any Length Required of Strong Cloth and fasten in one End of Each Cord then take a Strong Clue Line with a hook well fastened to one end of it then Draw the Clue Line into the Sheath then fasten the Ends that have no hooks together make them all fast then hooks of the Clue lines together and Sieze them Well then fasten the hooks of the Cords to the Staples at the Sides of the tube then fetch the Sheath Down over them and fasten it to the tube then bore a Small hole a Little above the hoop to put in the Priming then Bore a hole at the top and When Required Prime and Load it with Powder and Stop or Cork it tight then fasten one of the hook of the Running Riggins to the Staple in the hoop that it may be Launched off at a Word

Yea Build a Number of them and fasten An Anchor to the staple in the hoop and Sink them in Every Direction and make a buoy and put the Number of Each on it and put the Same Number on the Ends that are fastened together and When Directed Cut the Cords and Sheath and bring the Clue Line to the Windless then Apply the Like frame Cords Sheath and Clue Line to the Dogs of War in the Kennel And an Aparatus Like unto the before mentioned may be Placed Near Amboy or on Staten or Stratten Island and Another Upon the East River and Should the Channel at the Narrows be to Wide for the Running Riggins to Reach there Can be the Like aparatus put on the Oposite Side and the Running Riggins fastened to the Same Pier and the Like Aparatus may be Placed by any Harbor or River then Should any Ships Appear with Hostile intent to Commit Depredations may the Ordinance be Well Prepared and the Dogs bellys be Well filled and the other Aparatus well Loaded with Powder and Stationed

Then Should the Ships Approach Salute them with the Ordinance and Should the Ships Continue their Course then Send out the Kennel so that the Dogs may Bark and Snap at them and if the Ships Continue to Proceed in their Designs Then Launch off or Raise up and Command Leviathan to Sieze Upon them And may I not Suppose that they will Come

to Or Should any Ship with Hostile intent to Commit Depredations Cast their on the Cost of the United States then a man Can get into a Canoe and tak Leviathan or a Number of them with a Sufficient Length of Chords and Clue Line well Sheathed then a Premium or a Sum of Money will Encourage him to take a Circuitous Course around the Ships and Command Leviathan to Sieze Upon them

Yours With the Greatest Respect

I Remain Poor Despised and Forsaken CHAUNCY Hall

P S Nature is able to Unfold many Grand Improvements that are not Yet made Practicable and I have Considered Some of them to be Valuable and Useful but in the Sixteenth Verse of the Ninth Chapter of Ecclesiastes the Wise King of Isarael Sayeth the Poor mans Wisdom is Despised

MERIDEN November 24th 1812

[Endorsed] Copy

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO JOHN ARMSTRONG

[2:146]

HARTFORD 1. June 1813.

Sir

Conformably to a resolution of the General Assembly passed at their present session, a copy of which is enclosed, I have the honour, through you, to apply to the Government of the U. States for the proportion of arms to which the militia of the State of Connecticut is entitled under the "Act of Congress making appropriations for arming the whole body of Militia" passed the 23. April 1808.

I need not inform you, Sir, that the progress of the war and the defenceless condition of the greater part of our Sea coast give to this claim peculiar urgency.

If it is impracticable for the General Government to furnish the arms immediately, I shall be gratified to learn at what time they can be probably obtained.

I perceive by an official report of your predecessor that M^r Eli Whitney a citizen of this state, has contracted to supply

the United States with 15,000 stands of arms from his factory. Altho' a considerable period is allowed him in which to fulfil his engagement, yet if an earlier compliance with our wishes would be attended with inconvenience, I would suggest for your consideration the propriety of directing M^r Whitney to deliver from time to time as they shall be fabricated, the number of arms which may be allotted to our militia pursuant to the act already mentioned. The delay and expense of transportation might thus be saved, and I am authorized to assure you that such an arrangement would not be unacceptable to the General Assembly.

I have the honour to be Sir with
great respect your ob^t & hum^l ser^t

JOHN COTTON SMITH.

The Hon^{ble} JOHN ARMSTRONG Sec^y of War

[Endorsed] To Sec^y of War 1. June 1813. Arms.

[Copy]

WILLIAM WILLIAMS AND JIRAH ISHAM TO
JOHN COTTON SMITH

[2:147]

His Excellency John Cotton Smith Esq. Captain General & Commander in Chief of the Militia of the State of Connecticut.

Sir,

We hasten to inform your Excellency that the American Squadron under the Command of Com^o Decatur, consisting of the Frigates United States & Macedonian & Sloop of War Hornet which have been for the last two or three Days off the Mouth of our Harbour, this Day set sail for Montaug Point, with a view to proceed to Sea, but finding the force of the Enemy on that Station superiour to his, the Commodore has returned, com^e up the Harbour & come to Anchor above Fort Trumbull & opposite to the Town & the British Squadron, have followed the Commodore & are now to all appearance about to enter the Harbour. In this situation we felt it to be our duty & the anxiety & alarm of our Citizens demanded that we should order out such part of the Militia for the defence

of New London & its vicinity as was most convenient. We have accordingly ordered the 3^d & 20th Reg^{ts} in the 3^d Brigade (some of whom are now under arms) immediately to repair to New London with a view to furnish all the assistance in our power to prevent the enemy from landing & to give such other aid as circumstances may require. Your Excellency is undoubtedly perfectly aware of the very small force at Fort Trumbull which is however all the defence which we have & all the aid which our Squadron can expect, unless from the Militia

We therefore, considered the Town of New London & its vicinity exposed to so immediate an attack, that we have deemed it indispensable that we should order out the Militia & we wait your Excellency's orders & instructions on the subject. The Bearer Maj^{or} Tho^s W. Williams, of the 3^d Regiment, will acquaint your Excellency more minutely with our situation.

(In haste) With the highest respect

Your Excell^{ys} Obed^t Serv^{ts}

W^m WILLIAMS Maj^r General of 3 Division

JIRAH ISHAM Brig^r Gen^l 3^d Brigade

NEW LONDON June 1st (2 oClock P.M.) 1813

[Superscribed) His Excl^{ly} Gov^r SMITH Hartford pr Maj^r Tho^s
W. Williams Public Service

[Endorsed] Major General Williams & Brig. Gen^l Isham. 1.
June 1813. P^r express.

RALPH R. PHELPS TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[2:148]

To his Excellency John C. Smith Esq^r

Sir

Having been appointed & commissioned 2^d Lieutenant of the 8th Company in the 2^d Regiment of the Military Corps of this State in January last I accepted the appointment then residing in Stafford in the County of Tolland; since which time I have removed to the Town of East Hartford a distance of about five miles from the nearest part of the County of Tolland

& more than thirty miles from the farthest part, by reason of which removal it will be extremely inconvenient for me to pay such attention to the Company as will be necessary.

I am also at present labouring under considerable infirmity of body. Under these circumstances I pray your Excellency to grant me a dismissal from said Office

East Hartford June 1st 1813.

With much Respect

I am your Excellency's
obed^t Servant

RALPH R. PHELPS

[Superscribed] His Excellency JOHN C. SMITH Esq^r Governor
of the State of Connecticut

[Endorsed] Lieut. Phelps's resignation in Military corps.

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO JOHN ARMSTRONG

[2:150]¹

HARTFORD 2. June 1813.

Sir,

The enclosed copy of a despatch this day received from Major General Williams and Brigadier General Isham will make you acquainted with the operations of the enemy near New-London and with the measures which those officers have in consequence thought proper to adopt. I have signified to them my approbation of their conduct; and learning from the Express that a deficiency of arms and ammunition was apprehended I have forwarded from this place two hundred stands of arms. Also a quantity of powder and shot for the ordnance, which in addition to the fixed ammunition for infantry and artillery deposited by my orders last winter at and near New London will probably be sufficient, until supplies can regularly be obtained.

The adjutant general of the State has my directions to proceed immediately to General Williams with instructions to array a greater force if necessary, or to discharge the whole or a part of that which may have been already embodied as

¹Document 2:149 is a duplicate of 2:146.

PAPERS OF JOHN COTTON SMITH

circumstances shall require. The legislature will probably sitt tomorrow. After which I shall lose no time in repairing myself to New London; from which place you may expect to receive farther advices.

I have the honour to be Sir
very respectfully your obedient
& humble servant
J. C. SMITH

The Hon. JOHN ARMSTRONG Secretary of war.
[Endorsed] Copy letter to Secretary of War 2. June 1813. De
New London

NATHANIEL TERRY TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[2:151]

HARTFORD June 2^d 1813

His Excell^y Gov^r Smith

I takle the liberty to mention to your Excellency Edwin Gayord, of West Hartford, as a suitable person, to be appointed an Ensign, to fill the vacancy, in the 5th Company of State Troops. I am with the highest respect your

Excellencys most obed^t serv^t

NATH^l TERRY

[Superscribed] His Excell^y Gov. SMITH

[Endorsed] Col. Terry's recommendation of Edwin Gaylord.
Mil. corps.

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO WILLIAM WILLIAMS
AND JIRAH ISHAM

[2:152]

HARTFORD 2. June 1813
9'o'clock A.M.

Gentlemen

Your despatch of the first instant was received 7'o'clock this morning. I entirely approve of the measures you have adopted. No time has been lost in forwarding such additional

Supplies as appear to me indispensable for the occasion. Two hundred stands of arms, four hundred *Six pound* cannon shot and 1000 lb powder will be in progress before the departure of the express. The adjutant General who is now with me will repair immediately to New London and communicate to you farther instructions.

I am Gentlemen with sincere
regard your very ob^t ser^t
JOHN COTTON SMITH

Major Gen^l WILLIAMS
and
Brig^d Gen^l ISHAM.

[Endorsed] To Gen^{ls} Williams & Isham. Copy.

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO NATHANIEL TERRY
[2:153]

To Nathaniel Terry Esquire Major commandant of the first company of Governour's foot guards.

Sir,

Having thought proper to accept your resignation as commandant and also the resignation of Isaac D. Bull Esq first Lieutenant and Walter Mitchell Esqr. third Lieutenant of the first company of Governour's foot guards I have to request that you will cause proper notice to be given to the said company of the time & place you shall designate for the purpose and that you will lead them to the choice of officers to fill the vacancies occasioned by the resignations aforesaid and likewise to fill any other vacancies which may happen in consequence of such choice, and that you will make due return of your proceedings herein.

I am Sir your obedient ser^t
J. C. S.
Cap. Gen

HARTFORD 3. June 1813.

[Copy]

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO NATHANIEL TERRY

[2:153]

Sir

Considering your reasons for resigning the command of the first company of foot guards, satisfactory, I now enclose an order to lead the company to the choice of a Commandant in your stead and also to the choice of a first and third Lieut (other officers as therein mentioned) in the room of Isaac D. Bull and Walter Mitchell Esquires whose resignations have likewise been accepted.

I avail myself of this occasion to express my acknowledgement for your highly honourable exertions in promoting the interests of the corps, and in advancing it to its present unrivalled state of excellence.

With sentiments of sincere respect and
esteem I am sir your obedient
and humble ser^t

J. C. S.

3. June 1813

Col. N. TERRY

[Endorsed] Order & letter to Col. N. Terry. Copies.

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO STEPHEN DECATUR

[2:154]

NEW LONDON 6. June 1813.

Sir

In our conversation yesterday evening we concurred in opinion that two companies of infantry and one company of artillery to be stationed at Fort Griswold might be sufficient, with what militia could be suddenly called in from this & the neighbouring towns to prevent the approach of the enemy by land. I have since held a particular consultation with Brigadier Gen^l Isham, who expresses serious doubts, if a landing of troops is effected from the hostile ships at a point on either side of the harbour, whether an adequate force could be collected from the country in season to repel them. The militia most contiguous are those now here. If discharged, it is pos-

sible, he thinks, after the fatigue & privations already endured that they may not repair a second time to the post of danger as readily as at first, and a considerable period must elapse before others can be brought from more distant towns. I state these circumstances that you may be enabled to favour me with an explicit reply to the following inquiries.

Is it best to station a *competent* force at this harbour without particular reference to the occasional assistance of militia to be called from the country? If so, what shall be the amount of that force and the proportions of infantry and artillery? The troops now here should indeed be soon discharged but it will not be done until their place is supplied by others to the extent the emergency requires.

I must rely, Sir, very much upon the views you entertain on these points; and until instructions shall be received from the General Government will cheerfully afford all the aid in my power for the protection of the squadron and harbour. In these arrangements due regard, you are sensible, should be paid to the public expense and to the personal sacrifices on the part of the militia.

I have the honour to be
respectfully Sir your obedient
and humble ser^t
J. C. SMITH

Commodore STEPHEN DECATUR

United States' Frigate.

[Endorsed] To Com. Decatur. 6. June 1813.

[Copy]

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO JOHN ARMSTRONG

[2:155]

NEW LONDON 7. June 1813.

Sir

Whilst Sealing the enclosed an express arrived from N. York with a letter from J. Bullus Navy agent informing me that the Blockading Squadron had left the Hook with an intention of proceeding round Long Island to attack this place.

I have despatched my aid de camp, Col. Trumbull, to Commodore Decatur with this intelligence and desiring an interview with him for the purpose of concerting the requisite measures. The mail departs before it will be in my power to furnish you with the result of the conference.

I have the honour to be Sir
your obedient & very humble
Ser^t J. C. S.

Hon. Sec^y War.

[Endorsed] Sec^y of war 7. June 1813

[Copy]

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO JOHN MIX

[2:156]

To Colonel John Mix Quarter Master General of the militia of this State.

Sir,

By virtue of two several resolves of the General Assembly of the State of Connecticut at its May session in the year 1813, You are hereby directed to contract for, & purchase, for the use of this State, one field officers tent, fourteen wall tents, & one hundred soldiers tents, of good substantial tow cloth. Six hundred camp kettles, of sheet iron, three thousand canteens, one hundred axes, & one hundred pick-axes, ready for use, one hundred spades, four thousand pounds weight of grape shot, five thousand artillery tubes, ready for use, & two covered two horse waggons. Also that you purchase for the use of this State twelve hundred pounds weight of ball, suitable for the two pound field pieces belonging to this State & hold the same ready for use, and report the expence thereof to the General Assembly; & the same keep safely deposited, subject to the order of the Commander in chief or the General Assembly.

J. C. SMITH

Capt. Gen^l

7. June 1813.

[Endorsed] Copy of order to Q. M. General. 7. June 1813.

JONAH GATES TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[2:158]

EASTHADDAM June 7th AD 1813

To His Exelency John Cotton Smith Esq^r

Sur I have this moment received information By Leut Morgin that the Capt of the eight Company in the 24 Regt which was Commanded By Capt Bigalow Before he inlisted in to the State Corps is now vacant of a commander and has not Ben warned out for execise Sence that vacants was made Cornal Isham inform^d me that Gen Lusk Did not think him Self ortherised to give an order for that purpos Leut Morgin Did not think that it was his Duty to Call the Company out for execise while the Capt was with in the limets of the Company with out Sum Legal notis of his Captains Being removed from the Comand S^d Company I therefore request your Exelency to Send an order to Maj Joshua Buckley of Cholchester for the purpos of Leading the eight Company in the 24 Regt to the Chois of a captain and fill orther vacantcies as may require if your Exelency thinks Proper to Grant the above request you will much Ableage your humble Sarvant

JONAH GATES

Com Dant of the 24 Reg^t

[Superscribed] His Exelency JOHN COTTEN SMITH Sharen.

[Endorsed] Col. Jonah Gates 7. June. 1813. answ^d Capt. Bigelow

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO JOHN ARMSTRONG

[2:159]

NEW LONDON 7. June 1813.

Sir

I arrived at this place on the 5th instant and found about six hundred of the militia of the State Stationed on the two sides of the river who had been assembled under the circumstances mentioned in my letter of the 2nd inst. Commodore Decatur, apprehending the enemy would land troops under

cover of their guns at the points on each side the entrance of the harbour attempt the capture of Fort Trumbull and endeavour to possess themselves of Groton heights, had caused the works at Fort Griswold to be hastily repaired & had placed there some of the guns from the frigates. One company of artillery and a battalion of infantry with a few marines from the squadron were stationed at these works. The residue of the four column's were intended to operate on the west side in defence of Fort Trumbull. I had an interview with the commodore & Capt. Jones on the day of my arrival. They intimated their expectation of an attack, but as two ships only of the enemy were then in sight supposed several days might elapse before the enemy would consider themselves in sufficient force for the purpose. We therefore concurred in opinion that it was advisable to discharge a part of the militia who being principally husbandmen were suffering essential losses by leaving their farms at this busy season, and rely on occasional succour to be drawn from the county whenever the enemy might approach. I accordingly addressed a note to the Commodore yesterday requesting his opinion as to the amount & description of force necessary to be retained at the same time intimating to him the doubts expressed by the Brigadier General commanding the militia whether a sufficient number could be reassembled in season to repel the enemy if a landing should be effected. The Commodore sent me a verbal message that my letter should be answered this day & that he had just received intelligence of the accession of two large ships to the hostile squadron. This morning four of the enemy's vessels are in sight and an immediate attack being apprehended the Commodore has sailed with his Squadron up the river. He proposes as I understand to proceed to Haughton's Cove about six miles from this city. It remains to be seen whether the enemy will endeavour to get possession of the forts. I do not expect it as their main object is so far removed from their reach, but I shall not disband any part of the militia until a communication is received from Commodore Decatur; being heartily disposed to assist his views in affording all possible protection to the Squadron & harbour. If Fort Griswold were

put in a state of complete repair & properly furnished, no farther defence would be necessary. I will address you again before my departure from this place, and in the meantime I am desirous of receiving the instructions of the President as to the course proper to be pursued

I have the honour to be
respectfully Sir your ob^t hum
ser^t

Hon Secretary of war
[Endorsed] Sec^y of war 7. June 1813.
[Copy]

JIRAH ISHAM TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[2:160]

His Excellency Gov^r Smith,
Sir,

It will be necessary for me to have about 100 Rounds of Canister Shot & I am told the State have some. If your Excellency will please direct it it will be very pleasing to me

With the highest respect
Your Excell^y's obed^t serv^t

JIRAH ISHAM
Brig^r Gen^l
Commanding

Head Quarters NEW LONDON 7th June 1813
[Superscribed] His Excell^y's Gov^r SMITH at Mr. Haughton's
Montville
[Endorsed] Brig^d Gen^l Isham.

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO JIRAH ISHAM

[2:157]

HAUGHTON'S 8. June 1813.

Sir,

The detachment now under your command will probably be dismissed tomorrow, or as soon as the militia ordered in shall arrive. It would be evidently imprudent to put the public

arms into the hands of men who may be discharged immediately after the distribution shall have been made, especially too as the troops now on their way may be even less effectively equipt than those embodied at N. London. I advised to remove the arms for greater safety to a short distance only, but I consent that Gen^l Williams should delay their removal till farther orders or the actual approach of the enemy. If it becomes necessary from greater appearances of danger to give out any part of the guns before the present detachment are dismissed Gen^l Williams & yourself will act according to your best discretion.

I am Sir your very
ob^t ser^t

[Endorsed] To Gen^l Isham 8. June 1813.

[Copy]

JIRAH ISHAM TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[3:1]

His Excellency Gov^r Smith

Sir,

Five large Ships are standing in for the Race — the wind fair, they will be in I think — Will Com^o Decatur send any Gunners for the Guns he has mounted — This was his agreement — with^t this, they are worse than useless — I send this by Col^o Ward to your Excel^y —

Yours &

JIRAH ISHAM

Brig^r Gen^l Commanding

Head Quarters

N LONDON 8th June

½ past 10, OClock

P. S.

The alarm abates in consequence of the arrival of Col^o W. this moment from the Harbours Mouth. — who will state to y^r Excell^y the appearances We must have Guns — J. I.

]Superscribed] His Excellency Gov SMITH at Mr. Houghton's
Montville Col^o Ward

[Endorsed] Gen^l Isham

JIRAH ISHAM TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[3:2]

Head Quarters N. LONDON June 8th 1813

His Excellency Gov^r Smith

Sir,

I am informed by Gen^l Williams that the Guns are to be removed from the Arsenal here to some distance — This I am fearful will create much dissatisfaction — Indeed those Muskets are indispensable for immediate use in the Detachment now under my command or at any rate a considerable part of them — Will your Excellency be pleased to consider whether it will not be most adviseable to countermand this order or request to Gen^l W. & deliver these arms into my hands for use & immediate distribution, if necessary, — I presume no fears need be entertained that many if any of these Guns will be lost — I am confident the Capts, will be responsible for their Companies in this particular

With great respect

Your Excellency's obed^t Serv^t

J. ISHAM

P. S. I have requested Gen^l W. to delay sending off these Guns until I hear from y^r Excc^y

[Superscribed] His Excellency Gov^r SMITH at M^r Houghton's Montville Public service

[Endorsed] Gen^l Isham de arms —

ELISHA SILL TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[3:3]

SAY BROOK 9th June 1813

Sir —

This morning about 9 oClock there sailed from this port 10 or 12 sail of Sloops bound from Connecticut River to New-york, some with valuable cargoes on board 6 or 8 only of these vessels succeeded in getting over Say Brook Bar into the Sound, there soon appeared three large arm^d Barges manned with from 16 to 20 men each, the Sloops which had gone into

the Sound immediately on discovering these Barges made sail for the River, the wind was light two or three of the sloops came in safely four ran ashore nere Lyndes point were taken possession of by the Enemys Barges two of which were set on fire, and one or two were captured and sent Eastward toward New London; by this time the Militia and Citizens had collected & by their exertions rescued several of the vessels which had been taken possession of extinguished the fire and save the sloops two of which were nearly destroyed, thes two were loaded with stone destined for the fortification near New York, under these circumstances, I have thought proper to order out a Company of Militia for the defence of this place and the mouth of the connecticut and shall wait your Excellencys orders. This will be handed to your Excellency by Cap^t Ambrose Whittlesey who was an eye witness to the transactions, and I beg leave to refer to him accordingly

ELISHA SILL Lieu^t Col;
Comp^t 7th Reg^t Militia

To His Excellency JOHN COTTON SMITH Esq^r

Cap^t General & Commander in chief & &

[Superscribed] His Excellency JOHN COTTON SMITH Esq^r
New London

[Endorsed] Col. Sill informing me of his call to the militia at Saybrook — rec^d 10 o'clock A.M.

JEDEDIAH BEEBE TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[3:4]

LYME June 10th 1813 — It appearing that four launches of the Enemy, were about landing their Men and makeing an Invason on the East Shore of Connecticut River — and that the Inhabitants living there, were exposed to immediate Depredation — I caused the 1st and 7th Companies in the 33rd Reg^t to be immediately calle^d into Service to repel such force as should be found there and on repairing to the place I found the Enemy to have made a Landing — But had again gon on board their Boats and were then returning to their Ships — I then caused both Companies to be dismissed —

The following is a return of the Officers and Soldiers on Duty viz — One in the 1st Company — and Captain, one Lieutenant, one Ensign — three Sergeants — and Twenty one Privates — In the 7th Company — one Captain one Lieutenant, one Ensign — 4 Sergeants, 4 Coporals, one Drummer and 26 Privates —

JED^h BEEBE, Acting Major
one Sergeant one Coporal and Six Privates on guard last night Jed^h Beebe Major June 11th One Major 1 day at New London & Expenses

To his Excellency the Cap^t General & Commander in Chief of the Military forces Connecticut

[Endorsed] Major Beebee Lyme Militia —

JAMES MERRIMAN TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[3:5]

NEW HAVEN June 10. 1813 —

Sir —

In consequence of information that the enemy have committed depredations at Saybrook, I have deemed it necessary to cause two field pieces in the care of Major Bradley, to be immediately forwarded to Killingworth to Cap: Bray of the Military Corps — The Hon^e Mess^s Goodrich & Goddard concurred in opinion as to this measure; and I hope the necessity of the case will justify it in the view of your Excellency — I have been able to forward only twenty four cartridges — The Quarter Master General has forward to the Battallion of Artillery in this City only One hundred & eight balls for the field pieces; a quantity so inconsiderable that they would serve the pieces but a short time — May I request your Excellency to give orders for a more ample Supply — I have the Hon to be

Very respectfully

Your Ob^t Serv^t —

JAMES MERRIMAN

Brigadier Gen^l 2^d Brigade

[Superscribed] His Excellency JOHN COTTON SMITH, Esquire
Captⁿ General, State of Conn^t

[Endorsed] Gen. Merriman 10 June 1813 rec^d & ans^d 12

MATTHEW GRISWOLD TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[3:6]

LYME 10th June 1813

His Excellency Gov^r Smith

Sir — Yesterday we had a visit at the mouth of Connecticut River from the enemy's Barges. Some time in the fore part of the day, a number of coasting vessels fell down, on to the Bar, on the ebb tide, designing to take advantage of the flood, & proceed to the westward —

At about 11. oclock three Barges were seen, far out in the sound, making for the river — The sea was calm, and the tide running out — the vessels could not get back into the river, but were able to be run aground some within a few very rods of the lighthouse, — very soon the Barges got possession of five vessels — one they sent off to the eastward, — two others they set on fire, and the other two they kept possession of for some time, when a number of armed men, came down from Say Brook point in Boats, and others on the shore at the Lighthouse — The enemy seeing them, or from other cause, left the four vessels & returned to the eastward, first having exchanged a considerable number of shot — Our people put out the fires on the vessels — and all except the one they sent off, are now within the river —

From this view of war within our own waters and at our very Doors, a very great anxiety & commotion is produced among the people of this quarter — Defence is what they desire and what they ask for, and what they are destitute of — Had there been at the mouth of the river, yesterday, a small armed vessels, with little draught of water, our vessels would have been protected, and our alarm prevented. —

We rely fully on the wisdom of your Excellency to adopt such measures as will best effect this object of our defence —

Major Beebe, will give your Excellency further information on this Subject —

I am Sir with the highest consideration

of respect & esteem, your Excellency's

most obedient

and humble Servant

MATTHEW GRISWOLD

[Superscribed] His Excellency JOHN COTTON SMITH New
London

[Endorsed] Hon^{ble} M. Griswold 10th June Answ^d same day —

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO ELISHA SILL

[3:7]

NEW LONDON 10. June 1813

10'o'clock A.M.

Sir

I have just received your despatch by Capt. Whittlesey. Your conduct in calling out a company of militia under the circumstances you describe is approved. Capt. Whittlesey informs me you proposed to disband the men this morning. To this measure I also readily advise & consent — I am endeavouring to arrange a system of defence for Saybrook which will be more particularly detailed to you by Capt. Whittlesey and in which I hope to find a cheerful concurrence from the patriotism of my fellow citizens in that quarter —

In haste I am Sir your very
obedient servant

J. C. SMITH —

Col. ELISHA SILL — Saybrook

[Endorsed] To Col. Sill —

ELISHA SILL TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[3:8]

SAY BROOK 10th June 1813

10 o clock A M —

Sir,

Last evening I sent you a despatch by Cap^t Ambrose Whittelsey acquainting you with an attack made by several British barges on a number of unprotected Coasters at the mouht of Connecticut River — The 1st Company in the 7th Reg^t of Militia were embodied and continued under arms during the night — This morning a Ship of War appeared off this harbour and five barges made for the River, from two

of which they boarded a Sloop and set her on fire in the River, and two others went lay off the chops of the harbour — The Inhabitants are in consternation, being without ammunition and many without arms — and not a single piece of artillery in the vicinity —

I beg leave to solicit a supply of the needful articles of War — and a sufficient number of Men —

In great haste,
M^o Respectfully
your Excellencys
ob^t s^t
ELISHA SILL Lieut Col^o
7th Reg^t Cont^t Militia

To His Excellency JOHN C. SMITH Esq^r

[Superscribed] His Excellency JOHN COTTON SMITH Esq^r
at New London

[Endorsed] Col. Sill — 10-June-1813 rec^d 7, o'cl. P.M.

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO ELISHA SILL

[3:9]

NEW LONDON 10. June 1813

Sir

I forward four quarter casks powder to be used on either side of Connecticut river at Lyme & Saybrook as exigencies may require. We have no musket balls to spare from this place — This article shall be sent on from Hartford as soon as possible. In the mean time you must endeavour to supply yourselves; which no doubt can be done upon an emergency — I have also directed a box of 6lb cannon shot to be sent to Lyme for the use of the field piece in that town with orders for the artillery company to hale over to Saybrook if necessary —

No men can be furnished from this vicinity — If circumstances should imperiously call for aid you can not be at a loss for the necessary succour — I have hitherto omitted to

call the militia from Lyme & Saybrook from an apprehension that their services might be required at home —

In extreme haste I am Sir

Your Obedient Servant

Col. SILL

WILLIAM RANDALL TO WILLIAM WILLIAMS

[3:10]

STONINGTON, 10 June 1813

Major Gen. W^m Williams

Sir

The approach of the Enemies Ships and Barges to our Shores and harbors has caused considerable alarm to the inhabitants near them and I am informed that the British Barges had entered Mistic River and this day captured and carried off one Vessel and attacked another but were repulsed by her crew. — in consequence of these circumstances many individuals of the Borough of Stonington and from Mistic have made application to me to detach men from the Regiment of Militia under my command for their protection and defence. — not being satisfied that my duty requires it under circumstances as stated and considering that a reference could be had to my superior officers, from their residing as near to the river as myself; I have thought proper to defer it until I could procure your direction unless circumstances should transpire which should render it indispensable. — I would also suggest to you Sir that I consider the inhabitants justly alarmed and that prudence would probably require that a portion of the militia should be employed for their protection. — I have the honor to be, Sir

Your obedient Servant

WILLIAM RANDALL

[Superscribed] Major General WILLIAM WILLIAMS New London Connecticut

[Endorsed] Col Randall's letter to Gen^l Williams —

GEORGE W. JEWETT TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[3:11]

SAYBROOK June 11th 1813

Sir

I send this by a special Messenger to inform your Excellency that while I am writing one or more of the Enemy's Barges are now just the outside the Bar at the Mouth of the river apparently attempting to cut off a vessel standing toward River. This is the third day that they have visited this place & committed depredations on a number of Vessels some within & some just over the bar — by burning and plundering — Some of the Militia have been ordered out but they can afford but a small protection in such a place as this without the Assistance of some larger guns — Under this pressing emergency with the advice of Lieut. Col. Sill of the 7 Reg^t I yesterday call on a part of the 1st C^o of State Artillery and borrowed a Ship 4th gun and two or three Swivels, planted them on the old Fort and kept guard there last night; and this morning here relieved them with another part. The Citizens here are in a state of great alarm And could your Excellency furnish us with any additional means of defence it woul[d] be very acceptable — I shall remain here till the return of the M[essenger] hoping to receive Instructions both in regard to the line of Conduct to be pursued, and relative to any supplies of Ordnance &c

With great respect

Your Excellency's
Obedient Servant

GEO. W. JEWETT

Cap. 1 C^o State Artillery

I send this by Sergeant Williams of my compny to whom I refer your Excellency for any enquiries you may wish to make — His Excellency JOHN COTTON SMITH Esq^r —

[Superscribed] His Excellency JOHN C. SMITH Esq Gov &c.
New London

[Endorsed] Capt Jewett 11. June 1813 — rec^d & answ^d same day

JAMES MERRIMAN TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[3:12]

Sir —

In consequence of an alarm & notice of the appearance of the enemy by sea in this Vicinity, I have deemed it necessary to call out the Battallion of Artillery Annexed to the 2^d Brigade for the purpose of defending the town of New Haven; and hope that the necessity of the case will justify the measure to your Excellency I have also thought proper to detach guards from the Militia, to be posted during the night — Col: Staples will verbally communicate to your Excellency further particulars

I have the Honor to be

Very respectfully

Your Obed^t Serv^t

JAMES MERRIMAN

Brigadier Gen^l 2^d Brigade

NEW HAVEN

June 11. 1813

[Superscribed] His Excellency JOHN COTTON SMITH Cap.
Gen^l State of Connecticut New London Col: Staples

[Endorsed] Gen^l Merriman 11th June 1813. rec^d & ans^d 12th

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO ELISHA SILL

[3:13]

NEW LONDON 11 June 1813

6 °Clock P M

Sir

I have this moment received your letter of this days date & entertain no doubt from your representation that your conduct has been altogether correct in calling out a portion of the militia — As to the employment of the detachment from the Military Corps, I have to observe that until more particular instruction are received from the General Government, it is extremely questionable whether that species of force can as yet be *called* out — I entertain a hope that it will shortly be

in my power to engage that *corps* & relieve the militia from being harrassed with frequent demands for their services — You have before this received my despatch of last evening & the ammunition accompanying it — I have confidence in your prudence as well as your valour — Apprize me of your proceedings from time to time & believe me dear sir in extreme haste

your very humble serv^t

[Endorsed] To Col. Sill —

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO GEORGE W. JEWETT

[3:14]

N. LONDON 11. June 1813

Sir

I have received your letter of this day — At present your *corps* cannot be regularly employed — It is not improbable your services will be demanded at no distant period; and in the mean time if you are disposed to volunteer for the defence of your friends & neighbours at the approach of the enemy your conduct will merit approbation — You cannot expect, however, to receive pay and rations until you shall be duly summoned to the field —

In extreme haste I am sir

Your very Obedient Servant

JOHN COTTON SMITH

Capt. JEWETT

[Endorsed] Capt. Jewett

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO LUTHER BRADLEY

[3:15]

Major Luther Bradley

Sir

Under the present circumstances of our country I feel it my duty to require that you cause the second company of foot guards under your command to be kept in constant readi-

ness to act at a moment's warning, and that you employ them as exigencies may render it necessary for the defence of the town and harbour of New Haven —

I am Sir your obedient

Servant

N. LONDON 12. June 1913 —

[Endorsed] Order to foot Guards N. Haven —

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO JOHN ARMSTRONG

[3:16]

N. LONDON June 12. 1813 —

Sir

On a consultation with Commodore Decatur as proposed in my last it was concluded to retain the whole of the militia then assembled until their places could be supplied by two regiments to be drawn from the neighbourhood — orders were issued accordingly — But on the arrival of the two regiments information was received that a bomb ketch had been added to the enemy's Squadron and that preparations were evidently making for an attack — At the instance of Commodore Decatur who knows best his own capability of meeting the exigency & on whose opinion therefore I must greatly rely the whole force was directed to remain excepting such individuals as were under a pressing necessity of returning to their homes. The number of militia now here is about 1500 including officers — Communications from the Commodore to the Navy Department will show I presume the condition of Forts Trumbull & Griswold — The former is a mere water battery, mounting 22 guns — manned by about seventy raw recruits commanded by an officer of spirit no doubt but without experience — its magazine liable to be blown up by the first shell that shall enter the garrison — Fort Griswold might be soon rendered impregnable and from its commanding position would constitute a complete defence. In its present state with only five guns on platforms hastily laid upon the remains of the S. W. bastion the cut of the

works in mind, feeble would be the resistance if an assault were to be made by land. The heights therefore are to be defended against such an attack solely by militia and without any covering whatever — Should the enemy gain this ground the consequences would be serious, as the high lands on each side of the river might enable them to operate upon our Squadron without danger from their guns. The commodore however is placing a few cannon from the frigate on a hill west of his position — and a detachment of the militia is sent to protect them —

The enemys barges have entered the mouth of connecticut river & siezed several vessels — Two they took away with them & the rest they set on fire — The militia were soon collected & drove off the marauders & extinguished the fire — Returns of the men thus employed when received shall be transmitted —

I am now waiting with solicitude for a reply to my former despatches — That this array of the militia would have been unnecessary, but for the protection of the national squadron is obvious that the expence therefore should be defrayed from the national treasury is equally evident — The frankness which I hope may ever distinguish my public as well as private conduct obliges me to say that on this point it is necessary there should be an explicit understanding; nor can I doubt of receiving from the President those assurances which are manifestly due to the occasion —

I have the honour &c

[Endorsed] To Sec of war 12. June 1813 —

JOHN ARMSTRONG TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[3:17]

War Department

June 12th 1813 —

Sir

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's letter of the 2nd instant inclosing a despatch from Generals Williams & Isham —

I have directed the Commissary General of Ordnance to forward from the depot at New York, a quantity of fixed ammunition for the defence of New London; and Brigadier General Izard is directed to send, if in his opinion it can be done safely, as many heavy cannon on travelling carriages, as will be necessary for Fort Griswold. These orders were given before the receipt of your Excellency's letter. —

I have to express to you the Presidents thanks for the promptitude with which your measures of defence have been taken, & his approbation of your regaining in service, under existing circumstances, the six hundred militia already embodied —

I seize this occasion to offer to your Excellency the assurance of my great respect. —

JOHN ARMSTRONG

His Excel^y Governour SMITH —

[Endorsed] From the Secretary of War 12. June 1813 —
rec^d at New London — Copy

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO JAMES MERRIMAN

[3:18]

NEW LONDON 12. June 1813 —

Sir,

Your despatches under date of the 10th & 11th instant by Col. Staples are received — The delivery of the field pieces to Capt. Bray's company of artillery is approved. I also consider the measures you thought proper to adopt for the defence of New Haven as justified by the occasion — It is my opinion however that circumstances at present do not warrant the array of any considerable force at that point. If appearances of danger should vary, your measures must conform to them. Col. Staples, with whom I have conferred fully & who has suggested many valuable ideas, will communicate in detail the arrangement proposed for your defence. I have only time to advert to it — My opinion coincides with his that guns placed on the pier to be managed by volunteers will be eminently useful — I have no authority to direct works to be erected or to

draw on the treasury for the expense — But in my view there will be little hazard in relying on the bounty of the legislature to refund a reasonable sum for this object — Nor can I give any assurances that either arms or ammunition will be placed in the hands of volunteers *not duly organized* regular associations shall be supplied with both if necessary — It is most evident that the towns on the coast must rely very much upon voluntary aid — Neither the individuals of the militia nor the treasury of the State can sustain the burthen of lining the whole maritime frontier with an armed force in actual service — The harbour fortified in the manner suggested — a patrolle of cavalry on the sides of the harbour — proper signals established the first company of foot guards placed in requisition to act as circumstances shall require — and the battalion of artillery attached to your brigade kept in readiness to operate at a moment's warning — I apprehend may constitute a system of defence which in all probability will be fully adequate — Col. Staples will be furnished with orders by you to detach a Subaltern's guard of cavalry for patrols — Major Bradley is directed to hold the foot guards in readiness to act for the defence of the town and harbour — A draught upon the Q. M. General for ammunition is enclosed — and on the approach of the enemy you will array farther force if necessary — This arrangement meets the views of Col. Staples and I hope will prove satisfactory to you as well as to the good citizens of N. Haven for whose safety I feel very great solicitude

In haste I am Sir your most ob^t sr^t

Gen^l MERRIMAN

[Endorsed] To Gen^l Merriman — 12. June 1813 —

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO JOSIAH [JONAH] GATES

[3:19]

N. LONDON 15. June 1813 —

Sir

Your favour of the 7th instant is received — I do not consider that Capt. Bigelow vacated his office in the militia

by accepting a commission in the Military corps. He will be entitled to a discharge if he desires it — or if he pleases may retain his command — In the latter case it is undoubtedly his duty to appear with his company as heretofore unless prevented by some sufficient cause —

I am sir your
ob^t ser^t

Col. JOSIAH GATES —

[Endorsed] To Col. Gates — 15. June 1813 —

PETITION FOR ORDNANCE AND SUPPLIES

[3:20]

*To His Excellency John Cotton Smith Esq^r Governor and
ommander in chief in and over the State of Connecticut.*

The Subscribers, Petitioners, Citizens of the State of which your Excellency is Governor, which Petitioners reside in the Towns of Stonington and Groton, bordering on Mistic River, humbly represent to your Excellency that the Barges of the British Ships of war which now blockade New London, are almost every day hovering about the Mouth of said Mistic River, and have at three different times been in said River, and have twice succeeded in each time taking out a Vessel, That three of the Enemy's Barges have just been into said River and taken out a valuable Schooner & cargo, That we are threatened with the destruction of all the Vessels belonging in the River and all which take shelter here, That we are also threatened with the destruction of our dwelling houses together with all other of our property except the soil on which we tread, which threats are often sent us by the Fishermen &c.

We still remember the catastrophe on Groton Bank, and dread a repetition, Property is as dear to us as to any other Citizens of the State, and we will as long stand in defence of it, when armed with proper means of sustaining the contest, of which we are now destitute,

Therefore we pray your Excellency to provide us Two pieces of Cannon, (Long Twelve pounders) with sufficient amunition also Six hundred muskit cartridges. The Cannon

to be placed at the mouth of the River, We pledge ourselves that we will turn out voluntarily to man and use said Cannon, to defend ourselves and all other rights of the State which may be endangered, as far as is in our power, We also pledge ourselves as securities for said Cannon & amunition, should your Excellency be pleased to grant them to us — and we in duty bound will every pray —

Dated at Groton the 15th day of June A D 1813 —

ENOCH BURROWS
GEORGE HALEY
PEREZ WOODWARD
JEREMIAH HALEY
SIMEON HALEY
JERIMIAH BURROWS
AMBROSE H. GRANT
JESSE CRARY
AMOS BABCOCK
AMOS CLIFT
JEREMIAH HOLMES
AMBROSE BURROWS

[Endorsed] Representation from Groton & Mystick —

GENERAL ORDERS

[3:21]

The Captain General concurring in opinion with Commodore Decatur that a reduction of the troops embodied at this place may be safely allowed, directs that the officers & privates of the 3^d & 20 reg^{ts} excepting the artillery companies attached to those regiments be dismissed with orders to hold themselves in readiness to march to this place at a moments warning

The Muster & pay rolls will be transmitted to the Secretary of war without delay —

Brigadier Gen^l Isham, is requested to communicate to the officers & men now to be discharged the high sense entertained by the Captain General of their patriotism in obeying with such alacrity the call of their country, & his thanks for

their patience under sufferings, their orderly behaviour & strict attention to duty, & in general for a course of conduct honourable to themselves, & to the militia of Connecticut

NEW LONDON 15 June 1813 EBEN: HUNTINGTON Adj^t Gen^l

[Endorsed] Copy of Gen^l Orders June 15 1813 N London

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO JOHN ARMSTRONG

[3:22]

NEW LONDON 16. June 1813

Sir —

Your favour of the 12 inst. is just received and has afforded me much satisfaction — The details in my letter of the 12th instant I trust will fully justify in the view of the President, the additional force it was then thought necessary to employ. After closing my despatches on that day the hostile fleet got under sail, approached the harbour, fired several shots at the guards and to all appearance were meditating an attack — whether the display of so respectable a body of troops or some other cause discouraged them from the attempt is not known — The enterprize was for that time abandoned; and on the 14th two of their ships passed eastward out of the sound. As soon as information of this diminution of the squadron was received, orders were issued to disband the two regiments which were first brought into the field — and a farther reduction of the troops is this day made to the number mentioned in your letter. — Should the same ships return to this station or the enemy's force be increased from any other quarter I am seriously apprehensive, considering the feeble state of the forts, — that our numbers may be too small — accordingly I have ordered the dismissed militia who live in the vicinity to be in constant readiness to march to this place at a moment's warning —

Whilst on the one hand I am influenced by a sincere and ardent desire to protect our squadron at every hazard — on the other I have not been insensible to the immense sacrifices on the part of the militia who are called into service at this

PAPERS OF JOHN COTTON SMITH

particular season — Not a man therefore has been detained longer than the emergency seemed indispensably to require —

You will allow me Sir to press upon the government the importance of repairing as speedily as possible the works at Fort Griswold the jurisdiction of which is understood to have been already ceded to the United States —

As your letter was evidently written before the receipt of my despatches from this place a farther communication is of course expected; in which I shall hope to find that the President approves of the course I have felt it my duty to pursue —

I shall leave New London tomorrow to visit the several towns on our sea coast with the view of allaying by suitable preparation for defence, the apprehensions of our citizens in that quarter — General Isham has the superintendence of the troops here and will make his returns to the war department —

I have the honour to be Sir very
respectfully your Ob^t & hum ser^t
J. C. S.

Hon. J. ARMSTRONG Esq^r

[Endorsed] To Sec^y War 16. June 1813 —

SERENO E. DWIGHT TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[3:23]

NEW HAVEN, June 18th, 1813

Sir,

I wrote your Excellency a few days since by mail, respecting some fines imposed on me by Capt. Punderson of the 2^d Company 2^d Regiment of militia for failure of duty on the two last days of parade. I had notice of the fines on the 30th Ult. The law allows 25 days for an appeal. As letters by mail frequently miscarry, just at this time, I have concluded to forward a duplicate statement of the case by a private hand.

I have now been a member of the 2^d Company of Govs. Horse Guards almost a year & have the Certificate of the

Clerk of the Company to that effect. A Certificate of my enrollment in the Guards was left with Captain Punderson on the day it took place. He fined me all last year on the supposition that I should not take the trouble to go to Sharon to try an appeal. I now find the evil to be perpetual without such a trial Major Staples informed me that Your Excellency would probably return home through New Haven & spend some little time here. Should the trial of the appeal then take place it would be equally agreeable to Capt. P. & myself. But should it be attended by the least inconvenience we will, both as to the time & place of trial, wait your Excellency's orders.

I have the honour to remain

With the highest respect

Your Excellency's most obedient^t

SERENO E DWIGHT

His Excellency JOHN COTTON SMITH

[Superscribed] His Excellency JOHN COTTOH SMITH New
London

[Endorsed] Sereno E. Dwight Esq^r Appeal — rec^d 18th June
1813. issued order 25th day of trial 2^d July next 7'o'clock
P.M. at Hartford.

JIRAH ISHAM TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[3:24]

Head Quarters

NEW LONDON June 19th 1813

His Excellency Gov^r Smith

Sir

Five more Vessels have arrived & joined the *two* which have been for sometime off our harbour — They are two Seventy fours three Frigates & two Brigs — This makes their force formidable indeed — The alarm is great, we fear an attack this very night We shall I think have one — We very much need your Excellency here at this time even more than at any other — Unless we have a very great force we are gone & the Ships with us — In the absence of Gen^l Williams I have ordered the four Companies from Groton belonging

PAPERS OF JOHN COTTON SMITH

to the 8th Reg^t & the 30th Reg^t (Col^o Randall) immediately to repair to Groton for the defence of Groton & New London & I immediately inform your Excellency of my proceedings — I earnestly solicit your Excellency's return if practicable — I have taken the above course from the advice of Mess^{rs} Perkins, Gurley, Cleaveland & other Gentlemen their opinion coinciding with my own — Your Excellency's presence is almost indispensable — Serjeant Frink of the Cavalry is the bearer of this —

With great respect
Your Excellency's Obed^t
Servant

[Superscribed] His Excellency JOHN COTTON SMITH Esq.
Publick Service Jirah Isham Brig^r Gen^l Com^{dg} at New
London Express Ser^t Frink

[Endorsed] Gen^l J. Isham 19. June 1813 by Express. Rec^d at
Fairfield 20th 2'o'clock P.M. and answ^d per mail same
afternoon —

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO JIRAH ISHAM

[3:25]

FAIRFIELD 20. June 1813
2'o'clock P.M. —

Sir

Your letter of yesterday by express, is received — You have doubtless adopted suitable measures under the new circumstances which have occurred. I should however have been gratified if your call for additional force had resulted from a conference with Commodore Decatur, and that this fact had appeared in your communication; as it is proper to send a copy of to the Secretary of war. The accession to the hostile squadron is indeed cause of considerable apprehension, and it is not impossible an attack may be made: still I am unable to comprehend the policy or prudence of undertaking so serious an enterprize with a force greatly inferiour to what the British commander might easily draw to that point. — I feel a great desire to be with you, but it is evidently my duty

to complete the business in which I am engaged, especially as the inhabitants on the coast had become impatient at my delay — The Adjutant General will proceed to N. London on tuesday, and if more favourable accounts are not received I shall also repair thither as soon as a necessary attention to the public business will permit. In the mean time I flatter myself Gen. Williams & yourself with the concurrence of Com^{re} Decatur will conduct the operations in a manner honourable to yourselves, and advantageous to the country —

I am sir with esteem

your very ob. sr^t

JOHN COTTON SMITH

Brg^r Gen^l ISHAM

[Endorsed] To Gen^l Isham — 20. June 1813 —

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO JOHN ARMSTRONG

[3:26]

FAIRFIELD 20th June 1813 —

Sir

I am overtaken by an express with despatches from General Isham at New London an extract from which is enclosed —

I have the honour to be very
respectfully Sir your obedient
and very humble ser^t

Hon. JOHN ARMSTRONG Sec^y of war

[Endorsed] Letter to the Sec^y of war 20. June 1813 — Copy —

ELISHA SILL TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[3:27]

SAYBROOK June 21^t 1813 10 A.M.

Sir,

Yours of Yesterday in answer to my dispatch was duly received. I addressed a line to your Excellency yesterday by a private conveyance — I now write in great Haste to inform you that the enemies' Barges are now in sight, and will probably attempt to do further mischief at the mouth of this

PAPERS OF JOHN COTTON SMITH

River, I yesterday morning dismissed the Militia but the Barges appearing to the number of 5 or 6 I immediately assembled a part of Two Companies. The Barges after setting fire to one Vessel disappeared. I then dismissed One Company but thot prudent to detain a part of a Company to keep guard during the Night. This Morning the Enemis' barges have been and now are off the Mouth of th River. and have burnt a vessell a few mils to the Eastward. I have therefor thot prudent to detain the Guard to act as circumstances may require —

At my request Cap Jewett called out a part of the 1 Compay of State Artilly with the assistanc of Ships Gun to assist in keeping Guard at the old Fort I shall dismiss the Guard as soon as the danger disappears

I hope your Excellency will approve of my Conduct and give such Instruction and advice as you may think proper. which will meet with a ready attention from

Your Excellency's

Most Obedient

Humble Servant

ELISHA SILL Lieu^t Col:

Com^t 7th Reg^t Militia

His Excellency JOHN COTTON SMITH Esq &c &c

[Superscribed] His Excellency JOHN C SMITH Esq Governor
&c New London

[Endorsed] Col. Sill — 11. June 1813 — an^d same day —

WILLIAM WILLIAMS AND JIRAH ISHAM TO
JOHN COTTON SMITH

[3:28]*

NEW LONDON June 21st 1813

His Excellency

Gov^r Smith

Sir,

Since the letter by Express to your Excellency of the 19th Ins^t from Brig^r Gen^l Isham, commanding at New London, Maj^r Gen^l Williams having returned to New London

*Number 29 is a duplicate of this letter

on consultation it was deemed indispensable that a large additional force should be called without delay — No doubt was entertained that with the large reinforcement which the enemy had received, they would attempt such measures as were necessary to take or destroy the U States Squadron — In addition to the force ordered by Brig^r Gen^l Isham as represented to your Excellency in his letter — the 33^d Reg^t in the 3^d Brigade was also ordered in by him previous to Gen^l Williams' return and Gen^l Williams has issued his orders to the 11th Reg^t in the 5th Brigade immediately to repair to New London to defend that place & Groton & to protect the U States Squadron — The two last Regiments named have not yet arrived — We deem it our duty to apprise your Excellency of our proceedings & to inform you that the Enemy's Ships except the two Seventy fours have this morning sailed standing to the Eastward to what place destined is not even conjectured — Our situation requires that a large & efficient force should be constantly kept here & yet some of the Troops now here must be releived shortly — As soon as the Enemy had received a reinforcement Brig^r Gen^l Isham sent an Express to Comm^o Decatur and gave him information, with a view to get his consent that the Troops near the Squadron should be moved to a position to cover the Batteries — This Comm^o Decatur advised & it was accordingly done — So great was Gen^l I^s reluctance to call in new force so soon after he had dismissed those who had been in service, that he first thought of concentrating the force already under his command as much as possible and sustaining, as well as this force would enable him, the attack expected — But in consequence of a representation from Lieu^t Booth of the U States Navy who has been for sometime at Fort Griswold & the advice of influential Gentlemen in New London, orders were issued so suddenly that Comm^o Decatur could not be personally consulted as to its expediency, but we pledge ourselves Comm^o D will not only approve of, but highly commend a measure so necessary for the preservation of his Squadron —

We send your Excellency a letter rec^d by this mornings Mail from the War Department — Your Excellency's letter to

Brig^r Gen^l Isham was rec^d by Mail this morning — Gen^l Williams on account of the alarm which was excited sent to the Commissary Gen^l requesting him to send for our use from 300 to 500 stands of Arms & some Worms — this measure we hope your Excellency will approbate as we well knew the Arms we had would not supply the Troops ordered in — We are with the highest respect

Your Excellency's Obed^t Servts

W^m WILLIAMS Majr General

of the Third Division

JIRAH ISHAM Brig^r Gen^l 3^d Brigade

Commanding at New London

N. B. Gen^l Isham begs pardon of His Excellency for omitting his signature to his letter — All was confusion — the letter being copied by one of his staff & sealed without being noticed — Will your Excellency have the goodness to add my name & office to the letter — J. I.

[Superscribed] His Excellency JOHN C. SMITH Bridgeport
Con^t To be forwarded, if his Excellency has left Bridgeport, to Sharon N London 21^t June Publick Service. 20

[Endorsed] Gen^{ls} Williams and Isham — 21. June 1813. rec^d
at Bridgeport 22nd —

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO WILLIAM WILLIAMS AND
JIRAH ISHAM

[3:30]

BRIDGEPORT 23. June 1813 —

Gentlemen

I have received at this place your joint communication under date of the 21st instant — I am fully sensible of the extreme embarrassment you must experience from the continued changes in the force and appearance of the hostile squadron off New London, and I lament the oppressive consequences to the militia — The highest confidence is reposed in your prudence and discretion under these perplexing circumstances. It would afford me real pleasure to be with you at

the present moment if the various and pressing duties of my office would permit. The adjutant general will repair to N. London immediately and will communicate such instructions as I have been enabled to form at this distance from the scene of operations. I propose to meet him at Hartford the next week and shall be able probably by that time to fix upon more definite arrangements — I am gentlemen

respectfully your very obt^t ser^t

[Endorsed] To Gen^l Williams &c. 22. June 1813 —

ORDER OF NOTICE ON APPEAL OF
SERENO E. DWIGHT

[3:31]

State of Connecticut ss

On the appeal of Sereno E. Dwight Esquire, who claims to be a member of the second company of governour's horse guards, from the sentence of Elisha Punderson, captain of the second company in the second regiment of militia, imposing fines upon the appellant for neglect of military duty in the company last mentioned, it is ordered that the parties appear before the Captain General at his lodgings in the city of Hartford on friday the second day of July next at seven 'o'clock in the afternoon, to be heard in the premises —

Major Elihu Monson commandant of the second company of horse guards is directed to leave an attested copy of this order with each party, and report accordingly —

Dated the 25th day of June AD 1813 —

JOHN COTTON SMITH

Captain General —

[on back] New Haven County ss New Haven June 30th 1813

Then I left a true & Attested Copy of this Order with Capⁿ Elisha Punderson also a like Copy with Sereno E Dwight Esq^r the Appelant

Attest ELIHU MONSON

Major Commandant of 2^d
Comp^y of Gov^r Horse Guards

PAPERS OF JOHN COTTON SMITH

[Endorsed] Order of notice on the appeal of Sereno E. Dwight Esq^r Hartford — July 2. 1813 — The parties appeared and were heard. Ordered that the fines be abated — Capt. Punderson expressed his willingness to execute this sentence without any written order for that purpose — J. C. SMITH Capt. Gen^l —

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO JOHN ARMSTRONG

[3:32]

SHARON 28. June 1813 —

Sir

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 13th instant enclosing an order on the store-keeper at Springfield Mass. for two thousand stands of arms for the use of the militia of this state under the act of congress passed the 23. April AD 1808 —

I have the honour to be sir
with great respect your obedient
and very humble servant
JOHN COTTON SMITH

Hon. J. ARMSTRONG Sec^y of war —

[Endorsed] To Sec^y of war 28. June 1813 — Arms for militia —
[

ELNATHAN ATWATER AND DANIEL GREENE TO
JOHN COTTON SMITH

[3:33]

NEW HAVEN June 29. 1813 —

Sir

We having Inrol^d a Number of Citizen^s Exempts from Military Duty, Mostly Sea faring Men to the Number of fifty, Probably Shall have from Sixty to Seventy for the Purpose of forming an Artillery Company for the Difence of our Coast presuming that we shall not be Call^d out of this place, we would thank his Excellency to Apoint a Proper Person

to Lead the Company to a Choice of Officers According to
Law. Your Most Obedient Serv^{ts}

ELNATHAN ATWATER

DAN^l Greene

His Excellency JOHN COTTON SMITH Esq^r

Capt General of the State of
Connecticut —

[Superscribed] His excellency JOHN COTTON SMITH Eq Captⁿ
General of the State of Connecticut Sharron

[Endorsed] Elnathan Atwater de N. Haven volunteers 29.
June 1813 Rec^d at Sharon whilst I was at Hartford —
Answ^d 9. July 1813

JIRAH ISHAM TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[3:34]

Detachment of Militia

Head Quarters NEW LONDON June 29th 1813 —

His Excellency Gov^r Smith

Sir,

Pursuant to instructions from your Excellency, through
the Adj^t General the force which had been called in as stated
in my last was on the 25th Ins^t reduced to 1,000 Infantry,
three Companies of Artillery & the small Detachment of
Cavalry — These are still continued & are in my opinion & I
believe also in the view of the officers of the Navy & Gen^l
Burbeck of the United States Army who is now here sufficient
at present — Comm^o Decatur was very anxious, several Days
since for me to take upon myself the responsibility of putting
Old F^t Griswold into such a state of repair as would enable
us to defend the Cannon already planted there & to protect
the men if ordered into that Work, — I replied the want of
authority & at the same time assured Comm^o Decatur that I
would furnish men from my Troops, to work if he would pro-
cure the necessary Tools & the iron and Wood work — This
was finally accomplished without any assumption of re-
sponsibility on my part to *pay* any thing and I have detached

men daily for a number of Days past to work on the Fort — Gen^l Burbeck says he will have Barracks built within the Works & they are now also erecting Magazines

— The Work is fast progressing to a respectable state of repair & strength —

Gen^l Burbeck will garrison *F^t Trumbull* with the *twelve Months* men who have been recruited in this State & they are under marching orders, I am told, for that Post:

From information rec^d by the Adj^t Gen^l when at this place I supposed that your Excellency would direct a *general* Detachment of Troops to supply the place of those now in service, when you arrived at Hartford & have accordingly given my Troops encouragement of relief shortly —

— This course became necessary to quiet them & I assure Your Excellency that many of them are worn out, sick disheartened, ragged & dirty, and I am fearful of the consequences should they be retained many Days longer — This is more especially the state & condition of those belonging to the Regiment commanded by Col^o Salter consisting of the first Detachment from the 5th Brigade & the 24th Reg^t 7th Brigade of about 440 officers included — The Men detached from the 30th Reg^t 3^d Brigade & from the 11th reg^t 5th Brigade have not been in service long, but they also grow restless & discontented —

The Hartford Artillery Company your Excellency will recollect have been in service for a considerable time & have conducted with great honour to themselves & caused me no trouble, — but their fidelity & patient endurance of hardship ought not I should apprehend to furnish an apology for *extending* their term of service, much as I should regret to part with Troops whose place cannot be supplied. —

I intercede with your Excellency on behalf of the Troops at large who have with very few exceptions so conducted as to do honour to themselves & to the State of which they are Citizens — At the same time the constant changes in our force impose a task on me sufficient to shake a Constitution & distract a mind infinitely better organized to meet such an

emergency — When I recommend therefore further perplexity and embarrassment of this kind Your Excellency will do me the credit to believe, that it does not flow from a regard to myself but from a sincere desire to lessen the hardships & divide the burdens of this service —

The British force off this Harbour has very much varied in the course of the Week past Sometimes increased very considerably & at other times lessened to One 74 & a Frigate — & the latter is their present force — The officer who went in a Flag ship I sent a few Days since to Cap^t Hardy says that he remarked that he should pay us a visit when the additional which he expected arrived — Time only can determine as to the course they will adopt —

With the highest respect your
Excellency's obed^t Serv^t

JIRAH ISHAM Brig^r Gen^l
Commanding

[Endorsed] Brig. Gen^l Isham 29. June 1813 — Read first & part of second page —

JIRAH ISHAM TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[3:35]

Detachment of Militia

Head Quarters NEW LONDON

July 1st 1813

His Excellency Gov^r Smith,

Sir,

Maj^r Perkins, waits upon Your Excellency & will more minutely described the condition of our Troops, than I have been able to describe it in my written communications I beg leave to suggest to Your Excellency that if new Troops are detached, I am confident they will be much more contented & happy if called for a definite term (say 3 Months) unless sooner discharged —

Major Perkins will relate to your Excellency certain proceedings respecting the removal of the Gunners yesterday from F^t Griswold & an application *almost amounting* to an

PAPERS OF JOHN COTTON SMITH

order from Gen^l Burbeck that the Hartford Artillery should be stationed at those Guns — I beg your Excellency to dictate the course I shall pursue in this particular —

With the greatest respect

Your Excellency's

Obed^t Serv^t

JIRAH ISHAM Brig^r Gen^l

Commanding

[Superscribed] His Excellency Gov^r SMITH Hartford Brig
Maj^r Perkins

[Endorsed] Brig^d Gen^l Isham 1st July 1813 — To be read
in part —

SAMUEL H. PHILLIPS TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[3:36]

DANBURY July 1st 1813 —

Sir

Agreeable to your request I have enquired respecting the Cannon & Cannon shot which was supposed to be in this Town, & find that there has been an Iron three pound Cannon here for some years past, which was used by the Danbury Artillery Company, until the State furnished a Brass piece for the use of the said Company And that some time in the Month of May last the Iron Cannon was taken from this place to Reading by Order of Col^o Salmon of Reading — I also find that there is now in this Town about two Tons of Six, & twelve pounds Cannon balls which are in the Store formerly occupied by M^r Justus Barnum —

I am Sir respectfully

Your humb^l serv^t

SAM H. PHILLIPS

His Excellency

JOHN C. SMITH Esq^r

Sharon

[Superscribed] His Excellency JOHN COTTON SMITH Esq^r
Sharon Danbury Ct July 3 —

[Endorsed] Sam^l H. Philips — ordnance & military stores
at Danbury —

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO HENRY BURBECK

[3:37]

HARTFORD 2. July 1813 —

Sir

As the militia ordered in for the defence of the squadron and waters at N. London had no expectation of remaining any great length of time I feel it my duty to relieve them by a detachment from different brigades who shall be required to serve say for three months unless sooner discharged and who will of course make their calculations for such a period of service. The number necessary to be stationed at that point becomes an important question. The force of the enemy is made to undergo such great & frequent changes that I am sensible any one more experienced in military affairs than myself will find the subject attended with perplexity —

The secreatry of war in a late communication informs me that you sir are instructed to put Fort Griswold into a state of complete defence & I have just learned with much satisfaction that the work is in a good degree of forwardness. If our present force on that station may be considered as sufficient, I should suppose it might safely be reduced after the fort is completed — I shall therefore be gratified by answer to the following questions — within what time will the works at Fort Griswold be finished? — Are you in a condition to man the guns with regular troops? — What number of militia under all circumstances is it expedient to employ at or near N. London? — If your reply to the last inquiry must be formed in conjecture, I can only observe that in my view it will be entitled to much respect —

My aid de camp Col. Trumbull is despatched with this letter and will wait your answer —

I have the honour to be sir

Your very ob^t ser^t

Endorsed] To Gen^l Burbeck-2. July 1813 —

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO JIRAH ISHAM

[3:38]

HARTFORD 2. July 1813 —

Sir

I have the pleasure to acknowledge the receipt of your several favours of 29th ultimo and 1. instant —

As Commodore Decatur assured me Fort Griswold should be furnished with gunners from his squadron I must suppose the removal of his men from that post was merely occasional and that their places will be supplied — I do not perceive either from your letter or from the statement of Major Perkins a disposition in Gen^l Burbeck to issue *orders* to our militia — His conduct in the instance alluded to can only be considered as advisory at most — and whilst it assumes this character I would meet it with a spirit perfectly conciliatory and accommodating — I really hope no serious constitutional question will arise in the course of this service — and I the more readily indulge this hope from the information given me by the Secretary of war that Gen^l Burbeck is sent to *put Fort Griswold in repair*, without even hinting that any other duties are assigned him —

I am making the necessary arrangements to order in a new detachment of militia to relieve those now in service — taking it for granted that the artillery company attached to the 3rd regiment desire to be retained —

I am sir with sincere regard
& esteem your Ob^t & hum ser^t
J. C. S.

Gen^l ISHAM —

[Endorsed] To Gen^l Isham 2. July 1813 —

JIRAH ISHAM TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[3:39]

NEW LONDON July 3^d 1813 —

His Excellency Gov^r Smith,

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your

Excellency's letter by Maj^r Perkins & have since had the pleasure of a short interview with Col^o Trumbull —

Your Excellency anticipated correctly the views of Gen^l Burbeck in his application respecting the station of the Artillery — I saw & conversed with him on the subject after writing my last Letter We have a perfectly good understanding on all subjects & I find his counsel, which he is disposed freely to give, very useful to me in this novel & unexpected service — He is *very* social & friendly with me & has a perfect knowledge of the difficulties and embarrassments attending the Administration of the National Government —

Notwithstanding my frequent & I fear troublesome communications to your Excellency many things constantly occur which have been forgotten but about which I need your advice & assistance —

The *Guards* at Stonington are yet continued in service & the Inhabitants are unwilling to have them discharged — No *official* return has ever been made to me of these men — I am however told the *first* have been relieved by a new Detachment — I have not exercised any controul over them, though the Adj^t Gen^l informed me when here, that they would recieve orders & also those at Saybrook, to report themselves to me — Since that time I have heard nothing & of course shall wait your directions on the subject

— I beg leave also to suggest to your Excellency that our men among other complaints, suppose they ought not to be discharged without their pay I should be pleased if this could be done, the men would be much better satisfied & would come again with much greater cheerfulness, should their services be required. — It will be a pretty arduous task to make out correct *Pay Rolls* of the great variety of Troops who have been in service here, with such diversity in their term of service — Will your Excellency instruct me on this subject & to what Department they are to be presented —

— When the new Troops arrive we have it in contemplation to commence in every branch a new sett of Returns &

accounts — I suggested to my friend Col^o Trumbull, that I was desirous of being relieved by some officer to be detailed to supply my place — This I assure your Excellency would be pleasing to me, but I have since reflected that in closing the accounts of the service thus far I shall of necessity be employed a long time after I am discharged; I have also made myself somewhat though imperfectly acquainted with the detail of duty, & with the ground on both sides of the River & the exposed points which it is necessary to guard — Any information of importance which my experience has furnished must & naturally would be required to be communicated to my Successor My time would then be consumed with these different objects & frustrate completely my design in asking for relief — Under these circumstances, I will yet if your Excellency desires it remain in this service — If a different Detachment is made it is very agreeable to me

Your Excellency can command all my efforts — *This is without the knowledge of my friends, will you have the goodness to let it remain with us —*

I have already extended this to a very unreasonable length — but I intended to have observed that the plan which I mentioned to your Excellency when in New London with respect to the receiving of *Flags* from the Enemy's Ships, has succeeded to my most sanguine expectations & I have had the honour to correspond with Sir Th^s M. Hardy by whom I have been treated with great civility, considering that he is our Enemy —

I have the honour to be
Most respectfully
Your Excellency's
Obed^t Serv^t

Not official

JIRAH ISHAM

[Superscribed] His Excellency Gov^r SMITH Hartford M^r
Kilbourn Publick service

[Endorsed] Gen^l Isham 3. July 1813 —

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO JOHN MIX

[3:40]

HARTFORD 3. July 1813 —

Quarter Master General Mix

Sir

The public service requires that one of the brass field pieces in the possession of the Artillery company in the town of Bristol and one of those in the possession of the artillery company in the town of Sharon be transferred the former to the town of Guilford for the use of the volunteer artillerists there, and the latter to Simsbury for the use of the artillery company in that vicinity belonging to the Military corps — You will be pleased to make the necessary disposition accordingly —

[Endorsed] Order de artillery to Q. M. General Mix —

AARON BENJAMIN TO JOHN COTTON SMITH .

[3:41]

NEW LONDON 5th July 1813. Ct

Sir

Impressed with a just sense of the burthen which has been so patiently borne by the Militia on duty here, at a season when it is evidently very injurious to their interest, I can not refrain from addressing Your Excellency, with a hope that they may be permitted to return to the care of their farms & to that industry so essential to the happiness of the people of this State.

As it is obviously unnecessary to keep so great a number here, & as it is requisite for this service to preserve the good disposition of those patriotic men against a time of real danger, every friend to the State must wish that as few might be detained as the present state of things will justify. Five hundred rank & file, I presume, is a sufficient number; if at the same time five hundred more were warned to hold themselves in readiness to march at a moments notice for this place either for the assistance or releif of those already here.

The unequal distribution of details of the detachments now here, I find is a source of uneasiness and complaint of injustice.

The Town of Windham, I have been informed, has more than a hundred men on duty here; which renders it extremely difficult, if not impossible for them to get their most indispensable labor accomplished. If Sir, this communication is apparently too officious, impute it to a desire of being useful to my Countrymen, & do me the honor to accept the assurances of the high consideration & respect of Your Obed^t serv^t

AARON BENJAMIN

L^t Col^l Com^t 37th Reg^t U S Inf^y

[Superscribed] His Excell^y JOHN C. SMITH Governor of Connecticut Hartford

[Endorsed] Col. Benjamin N. L. infantry — 5. July 1813 —
answ^d by Col. Trumbull 6. July —

LEVI LUSK TO EBENEZER HUNTINGTON

[3:42]

WETHERSFIELD July 5th 1813. 2 Oclock P M

Sir

I have this moment Received by the hand of Col Terry your order of this Day Directing a Detachment from the 7th Brigade of 160 men including officers which will be promptly attended to agreeably to your order as Detailed
Sir with respect I am your most humble Servn^t

LEVI LUSK Brigadier General
7th Brigade Militia

EBEN^r HUNTINGTON Adjutant General
State of Connecticut

[Superscribed] EBN^r HUNTINGTON Esq^r Adjutant General
of connectt at Hartford

[Endorsed] Gen^l Levi Lusk's rec^t of Gen^l orders — 5. July
1813 —

EPHRAIM HINMAN TO EBENEZER HUNTINGTON

[3:43]

ROXBURY July 6th 1813

Sir

I Rec^d by the hand of M^r Elijah Tarrey Express, an Order to Detach one hundred & Eighty Troop Including Officers & Men which Order I will attend to without dilaw [delay] & See the men forwarded on I wish it had been my ower to have been Call^d. I am Sir with Esteem Yours To Ser

EPHRAIM HINMAN

Gen^l 8 Brigade

[Superscribed] EBENE^r HUNTINGTON Adj Gen. at Hartford
Eph^m Hinman Gen^l 8 B. by p^m Exprss Publick Server.

[Endorsed] Gen^l Hinman's Rec^t of Gen^l orders — 6. July
1813 —

RECEIPT FOR GENERAL ORDERS

[3:44]

Rec^d LITCHFIELD July 6th 1813 General Orders Dated
Hartford July 4th 1813

Directed to the Sixth Brigade, viz

Orders to Detail Two Captains
 four Subalterns
 8 Sergants
 8 Coporals
 2 Drummers
 2 fifers
 114 Privates

LUCIUS SMITH Brigade

Major & Inspector 6th

Brigade Conn^t Militia

[Endorsed] Genl. Thompson's Re^t of Gen^l orders by his
Brig. Major — 6. July 1813 —

JOSEPH TRUMBULL TO AARON BENJAMIN

[3:45]

Col^o Aaron Benjamin
New London

Sir

His Excellency Governor Smith has received your letter of the 5th instant & as he is much occupied at the present time, has requested me to give it an answer — No one can feel more regret at the sufferings of the Connecticut militia than his Ex^y; & having understood that there were under your command about 400 inlisted men, he hoped that a less number of militia than that now stationed at New London would be sufficient —

But as the Gen^l Gov^t had assumed the expense of defending the Squadron at that place, & had sent Gen^l Burbeck to put the works at Fort Griswold in a state of defence, His Ex^y tho^t proper to advise with that experienced officer as to the requisite number of militia — Gen^l Burbeck was of opinion that a less number than 1,000 infantry, & 200 artillery men, would be inadequate to the defence of the harbour & ships —

His Ex^y has therefore ordered the above quotas of infantry & artillery detached from different brigades, with a small guard of cavalry to repair immediately to N. London for the relief of our Troops now there —

But desirous that your opinion may have its proper influence, His Ex^y has directed me to forward a copy of your letter to Gen^l Burbeck who will without doubt give it a careful perusal —

If Gen^l Burbeck on reconsideration should change his opinion, such part of the militia as can be dispensed with will be discharged —

Your very Obed^t & Hmble Servant

JOS. TRUMBULL

Aid de. Camp

HARTFORD July 6. 1813 —

[Endorsed] Copy of letter to Col^o Benjamin

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO JIRAH ISHAM

[3:46]

HARTFORD 6. July 1813 —

Dear Sir

The despatches forwarded through the Adjutant General will apprize you of the arrangements made for the relief of the troops at New London — Suffer me to add, what I doubt not you have attentively considered, the importance of using every effort to reconcile the men to a service severe in itself and which is daily becoming more and more irksome. You will distribute arms & acoutrements freely to such as are not well supplied, taking all possible care that none be lost — I am happy to perceive by your last that you have the prospect of maintaining a good understanding with the U. S. officers. This should be carefully cultivated *without surrendering however, in any degree, the right of the State Government* —

General Huntington sets out for Washington tomorrow. Should he succeed in his mission, of which there ought to be no doubt, the wages of the dismissed militia will be shortly paid —

With sincere wishes for your health and
happinees I am D^r sir your very ob^t se^{rt}

Gen^l ISHAM

P. S. I propose to leave this city in a day or two for Sharon but shall probably return with Gen^l Huntington who will take my house in his way from Washington —

[Endorsed] To Gen^l Isham 6. July 1813 —

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO ELIHU MONSON

[3:47]

HARTFORD 7. July 1813 —

Sir —

On M^r Dwight's appeal Capt. Punderson appeared at the hour appointed and as he acknowledged notice to have been served upon him, and was not disposed to take advantage of your delay in returning the order, I proceeded to give him my opinion in the case. He has engaged to remit the fines

without a written order for that purpose. Should there be an attempt to enforce the collection you will advise me of it —

The frequency of these cases is somewhat alarming — There is danger that the Public will soon be impressed with a belief that an enrolment in the guards is a refuge for military delinquency. Such an impression would be a serious evil, and should therefore be prevented as far as possible

I am Sir with Sincere regard
your ob^t & humble ser^t

J. C. S. —

[Endorsed] To Major E. Monson 7. July 1813 —

ELISHA SILL TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[3:48]

SAY BROOK 7 July 1813

Sir

Since your Excellency visited Say Brook we have remained tolerably quiet untill Tuesday of last week when we were menaced by the appearance of five of the enemys barges who came up with the Light House, chased into the river two small Vessels from New York bound to the Eastward Loaded with flour Rye &c and would undoubtedly have succeeded in capturing them but from the protection afforded by the fort, They fired a number of shot from the barges on shore some of which struck near the Fort and almost up with the dwelling Houses on the point, the Fort returned the fire for some time the shot generally fell short there is but one short Six pounder in the Fort and that but poorly mounted and could not be expected to do execution at any great distance The militia verry promptly attended & embodied themselves with the Citizens of the place but after the Barges had remained in the chops of the Harbor for near one Hour they pulled of to the Eastward along shore —

On Monday morning before sunrise we were again alarmed by the appearance of Five Barges who came in to the River fired several shot above the Fort, the fire was returned from the Fort but without any damage on either side they landed a

few men about one mile to the westward of the Light house but committed no depredations, they returned to the boats before the Militia could reach the place of landing this Morning a large Launch (ship rigged) went past the river to the westward and captured two coasting Sloops which they took of and chased a New London Packet in to this Harbour, It would be very desirable to have a regular guard stationed here and provided with some pieces on traveling carriages perhaps 9 or 12 pounders as your Excellency shall think proper The Inhabitants are continually harrassed by the enemy boats and not able to pursue their usual business — I made a communication to the Adjutant General on the 3rd and recommended to have the guard dismissed should their be no further appearance of the enemy since which time they have been almost constantly hovering round this river — I have kept a guard of about twenty men and have made detachments from this Regiment for tours of ten days each they have done preformed their duty with a spirit that does them much Honor, the militia consider it a great Burthen to do garison duty at this busy season of the year but manifest their readiness to turn out on any emergency the Bearer Cap^t A Whittlesey will be able to give every information respecting our exposed situation should your Excellency think proper to continue the guard in this manner I must request a further Supply of Powder & 6lb Shot — I have a supply of musket ball for the present. I would request your Excellency to give me perticular directions as to the mode to be pursued — I shall on all occasion with cherfullness execute your Excellencys order

I am With Esteem & Resp^t

your most ob^t ser^t

ELISHA SILL Lieut Colⁿ

Com^r 7th Reg^t Con^t Militia

N B. I am in want
of some musket flints

His Excellency JOHN COTTON SMITH Esq

[Superscribed] His Excellency JOHN C. SMITH Sharon Cap^t
Whittlesey

[Endorsed] Col. Elisha Sill — 7. July 1813 — answ^d 10th —

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO ELNATHAN ATWATER
AND DANIEL GREENE

[3:49]

SHARON 9. July 1813 —

Gentlemen

Your letter of the 29th ultimo arrived during my absence at Hartford.

The spirit displayed by the exempts in New Haven is highly commendable; but it is necessary that the association itself with the names of the associates, either the original or a copy, should be presented to the commander in chief before an order can issue to lead the company to a choice of officers. To save time I have addressed a letter to the Honourable Elizur Goodrich, authorizing him to receive the association, and signatures; and requesting that he will thereupon deliver the order to Major General Hubbard which is now forwarded—

The company when formed will not by me be ordered out of the town of New Haven to resist a foreign enemy; but no such condition can be allowed in the act of association, which must be simply predicated upon the statute —

I am Gentlemen respectfully your
obedient and humble servant

JOHN COTTON SMITH —

Captains ATWATER & GREENE —

[Endorsed] To captains Atwater & Greene —

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO JOHN MIX

[3:50]

SHARON July 10. 1813 —

Sir

The British barges continue to infest in a very alarming manner the mouth of Connecticut River — An express Capt. Whittlesey the bearer has just arrived with pressing solicitations, from the most respectable inhabitants at Saybrook & towns on the river, for a heavy piece of ordnance & suitable ammunition — I must request you to repair to that place as early as your convenience will possibly admit and en-

deavour to procure from Stonington or elsewhere a long *nine* or a *twelve* & have it mounted as expeditiously as may be either on a ship or travelling carriage — & furnish the necessary munitions for that & the piece now mounted — — Col. Sill writes me that musket flints are also wanted, which you will please to forward —

I am sir respectfully &c

J. C. S. —

Quarter Master General MIX —

[Endorsed] To Q. M. General Mix — 10. July 1813 —

JIRAH ISHAM TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[3:51]

Head Quarters NEW LONDON July 10th 1813

His Excellency Gov^r Smith

Dear Sir

You will receive by Major Perkins, a Letter from Gen^l Burbeck by which your Excellency will learn that he has received instructions from the War Department to Dismiss all the Militia — This so entirely changes the aspect of things & will perhaps so completely vary the late arrangements that I am at a loss to know what course to pursue & deem it necessary immediately to acquaint your Excellency by Express, with this new & unexpected state of things & shall omit taking even preparatory measures for Discharging the Troops now in service untill I receive directions from the Commander in Chief —

It must necessarily cause great embarrassment, as the New Detachment are undoubtedly before this moving to their respective places of rendezvous — I have pursuant to orders directed a Detachment of Cavalry from the Brigade under my command, who will I fear come in before this reaches your Excellency —

Whatever course is adopted I must earnestly solicit that the Troops now in service be not retained longer than is necessary for me to receive orders for their Discharge — They are now somewhat quieted by an order I issued yesterday

announcing to them that the period of their Discharge was not probably more distant than next Wednesday or Thursday —

The object I think is to make a requisition (after the discharge of the present force) of a small number of *Companies* that eventually they may be under the command of Lieu^t Col^o Benjamin — Against this (and I confess my opinion is grounded partly upon suspicion) your Excellency will pardon me for entreating that our Troops may be protected —

With the greatest respect & esteem

I have the honour to be

Your Excellency's

Obed^t Servant

JIRAH ISHAM Brig^r Gen^l

Commanding at N London

[Superscribed] His Excellency Gov^r SMITH Sharon Maj.
Perkins Publick service

[Endorsed] Gen^l Isham 10. July 1813 — rec^d by express 10th
10'o'clock A.M. asw^d same hour

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO ELISHA SILL

[3:52]

SHARON 10. July 1813 —

Sir

Your letter by Capt. Whittlesey is received. By an arrangement I have lately made, the guard at Saybrook point will in future consist of a detachment from the troops at New London, to be relieved every twenty days.

Orders are now forwarded to the Quarter Master General to repair to Saybrook without delay and endeavour to procure a heavy piece of ordnance & have it mounted as expeditiously as possible — as also to supply you with the articles mentioned in your letter — When an additional piece is mounted, you will be furnished with an increased number of men —

I am Sir in haste your

very obedient servant

JOHN COTTON SMITH —

Col. SILL —

[Endorsed] To Col. Sill — 10. July 1813 —

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO HENRY BURBECK

[3:53]

SHARON 11. July 1813

Sir

I have received your letter of yesterday. Pursuant to the directions communicated to you by the Secretary of war I now issue orders for the discharge of the detachment which had been ordered to New London for the relief of the militia at that post; and have also instructed General Isham to comply with the wishes of the Secretary of war by discharging the troops under his command —

I am Sir respectfully your
very obedient Servant

J. C. SMITH —

Brigadier General HENRY BURBECK —

[Endorsed] To Brig. Gen^l Burbeck 11. July 1813 —

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO JIRAH ISHAM

[3:54]

SHARON 11. July 1813 —

10'o'clock A.M.

Sir

Major Perkins, with an alacrity which does him much honour, has delivered me your letter of yesterday, and also a communication from B^d General Burbeck — I have in consequence issued orders for the discharge of the detachment which was intended to relieve the militia at New London. You will not hesitate to comply with the wishes expressed by the Secretary of war in his letter to General Burbeck for the discharge of every description of troops under your command at that post. They were arrayed for the protection of the national squadron. If that object can be effected without their aid I shall sincerely rejoice. The officers and men who, at such a serious sacrifice, have performed this duty are entitled to the gratitude of their country; and you will be pleased

to reiterate to them the sentiments expressed by me on a former occasion.*

I deem it necessary that the guards at Stonington and Saybrook be continued till farther orders. You will accordingly issue instructions to Col. Randal to this effect. Col. Sill's regiment not belonging to your brigade, a separate order will be addressed to him.

Accept Sir my thanks for your promptitude and fidelity in the public service, and believe me with

the sincerest respect and esteem your very

obedient servant JOHN COTTON SMITH

Brig. Gen^l ISHAM —

*General order of the 15th June for discharging the two regiments first called into service — of which the following is an extract —

"Brig. Gen^l Isham is requested to communicate to the officers and men now to be discharged the high sense entertained by the Captain General of their patriotism in obeying with such alacrity the call of their country, and his thanks for their patience under sufferings, their orderly behaviour and strict attention to duty, and in general for a course of conduct honourable to themselves, and to the militia of Connecticut" —

[Endorsed] To Brig. Gen^l Isham — 11. July 1813 — copy —

ORDER FOR DISCHARGE OF MILITIA

[3:55]

Sir —

SHARON 11. July 1813 —

I have this moment received a letter from General Burbeck an officer of the United States at New London informing me that he has received orders from the war department for the discharge of the militia at that post —

You will be pleased immediately on the receipt of this, to discharge the detachment from your brigade —

I am Sir your very

obedient servant

J. C. SMITH

Capt. Gen^l

Brigadier Gen^l TRYON &c

The like order to the other Brigadier Generals & to the artillery companies from the State troops —

[Endorsed] Order to discharge the detachment of militia —

11. July 1813 — Copy —

JOHN ARMSTRONG TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[3:56]

(copy)

War Department

July 13th 1813 —

Sir

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's communication by Major Gen. Huntington, & to him I beg leave to refer, for the explanation given on the subject of his mission.

By the last accounts from Norfolk, we are led to believe, that Admiral Cockburn has carried with him a reinforcement for the hostile squadron before New London. Should he there make an experiment of his strength, it will be with less success than at Norfolk. The defence of Fort Griswold of old, has in it much admonition to an enemy. —

I seize this new occasion to offer to your Excellency the assurance of my very great respect. —

JOHN ARMSTRONG —

His Excellency Governor SMITH

[Endorsed] From Secretary of war 13. July 1813 By Adj^t
Gen^l Huntington & referring to him for particulars —
Copy

PETITION FOR PROTECTION

[3:57]

*To his Excellency John Cotton Smith Esq^r
Governor & Commander in Chief in &
over the State of Connecticut*

The Subscribers Inhabitants of the Towns of New London & Groton beg leave to represent that the sudden & unexpected discharge by the General Government of the Militia ordered for the defence of New London & its vicinity has placed the property & the lives of the subscribers & their families at the mercy of the Enemy — that the situation of the United States ships in the River Thames is such as to invite an attack from the British & which if successful will insure the destruction

of all the navigation now in that River & belonging to the Inhabitants of New London, Norwich &c & which has taken Refuge in the River as a place of safety — We feel unprotected & abandoned — our all is at stake & we ask from the Government of the State of Connecticut such a proportion of the militia as may be deemed adequate for defence & as a rallying point to which those may resort who may assemble at the time of attack to resist the Enemy — If the Government of the United States correctly or incorrectly think proper to have their Squadron now in the Thames without protection we who have as much at hazard as men can have, feel under the present state of things exposed in our persons & property to sudden destruction & ask the aid of the State Government to call into service such a number of militia as your Excellency may judge proper

Dated New LONDON }
July 14th 1813 }

ISAAC THOMPSON
MURTIHU
JON STARR JR.
JOHN WAY
JAMES TILLEY
PARDON P. TABER
DAVID COIT
NAT. RICHARDS
STEPHON HOLLY
DANIEL DESHON
JOSEPH SKINNER
JONATHAN STARR
DAVID HARRIS
ALFRED PEMBER
GABRIEL SISTARE
GEO HALLAM
ROB COIT
EDW^d D. TRACY
RICH^d DOUGLAS 2nd
JN HALLAM

ASA SPENCER
CHARLES CAREW
JN^o CHRISTOPHERS
LODOWICK LEEDS
JN^o GRIFFING
CHARLES STARR
SAM¹ EELLS
JESSE BROWN
ASA DUTTON
PEARIN DARROW
HENRY NORRIS
JOHN BEATTY
LEON^d D. RICHARDS
JOHN CLARK
JONⁿ HARRIS
PETER B HARRIS
THO. W. WILLIAMS
JOHN HOWARD 2^d
EZEKIEL FOX
JESSE BROWN
HENRY CAHOONE
GEO. COLFAX

FRANCIS RICHARDS
ZEPHANIAH RIPLEY
ABNER COIT
STEPHEN PECK
R STODDARD
NOYES BARBER
THO^s POOL

EPH CHESEBROUGH
JOHN FRENCH
EDWARD LEARNED
GEO. STARR
DAVID FRINK
EPH^m M. FRINK

[Endorsed] Representation from N. London & Groton 14
July 1813 —

JEREMIAH G. BRAINARD AND LYMAN LAW TO
JOHN COTTON SMITH

[3:58]

NEW LONDON July 14th 1813

His Excellency John Cotton Smith

The inclosed address will in a measure apprize your Excellency of our alarming condition and the state of our feelings. Very little doubt remains in our minds that the enemy will shortly make an attack at this place

We take the liberty to suggest the propriety & if deemed proper to request your Excellency to repair to New London for the purpose of a personal interview with Gen. Burbeck who commands the United States troops in this District & of seeing yourself the state & condition of things which to us is truly alarming and highly distressing.

We are Your Excellencys
most obedient Servants.

JEREMIAH G BRAINARD
LYMAN LAW

[Superscribed] His Excellency JOHN COTTON SMITH Esquire
Sharon

[Endorsed] Judge Brainard & M^r Law — 14. July 1813 enclosing representation from N. London —

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO ENOS H. BUEL

[3:60]

SHARON 15. July 1813

*To Capt. Enos H Buel, tenth company, Second regiment of
infantry in the Military corps of the State of Connecticut —*

Sir —

In consequence of the earnest desire of the principal inhabitants of New London and Groton I must request you to march immediately with your company suitably equipt to the former place for the protection of the persons and property of our citizens — You will report yourself to Major General Williams or Brigadier General Isham, whichever of those officers shall be in command of the militia at that post, —

I am Sir your very obedient

Servant

JOHN COTTON SMITH

Captain General —

[Endorsed] Orders to Capt. Enos H. Buel 15. 1813 copy —

The like to Capt. Jewett of the Artillery —

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO WILLIAM WILLIAMS OR
JIRAH ISHAM

[3:61]

SHARON 15. July 1813

Sir

In consequence of the earnest desire of the principal inhabitants of New London and Groton, connected with an urgent representation from Brigadier General Burbeck an officer of the United States, I must request you to order such numbers of the neighbouring militia, whether infantry or artillery, to march to New London, as from a consultation with General Burbeck and your views of approaching danger, may be judged necessary for the protection of the persons and property of our citizens. &c —

I now issue orders to Capt. Jewett of the artillery and Capt. Buel of the infantry in the *military corps*, to repair

immediately to the same post, and report themselves to the commanding officer of the militia —

Major General Williams if present, and if not, Brigadier General Isham, will take command of the troops which may assemble under the authority of the State —

I shall go to Hartford without delay for the purpose of adopting the necessary measures to relieve, as speedily as circumstances will admit, the militia now called into Service —

I am Sir respectfully your very
obedient servant

JOHN COTTON SMITH

Capt. General —

Major General WILLIAMS or

Brigadier General ISHAM —

[E endorsed] To Major Gen^l Williams or Brig. Gen^l Isham —

15. July 1813 —

JIRAH ISHAM TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[3:62]

NEW LONDON July 15 1813—

His Excellency

Gov^r Smith

Sir,

I am under the necessity of acquainting your Excellency that I have again been obliged to order into service part of my Brigade — Letters from the war-Department received by yesterday's mail by General Burbeck and also by Comm Decatur, furnish the intelligence that part of the Fleet in the Chesapeake had sailed for New London — and the rest were to proceed as soon as they had watered —

Gen Burbeck and Comm Decatur immediately required that I should notwithstanding the late proceedings of the War Department in the dismissal of the Troops under my command order into service two Regiments of Infantry & a small Detachment of Cavalry — This I at first declined to do — giving for reason that as the Militia of every description had been so recently discharged by your Excellency's order in compliance with the directions of the Sec^y of War I

did not consider myself justified in calling in Troops — I also stated that the Militia in my Brigade had all been in Service & some had been ordered in twice that it would be difficult if not impossible to get them out so soon again & if they appeared the greater part of them must be furnished with Arms & all were destitute of Ammunition both of which Articles & all the warlike Stores & Camp utensils had after the discharge of the Troops been put on board a Vessel for removal to Norwich as they were entirely exposed here — These and many other reasons were urged to induce a postponement at least untill I should have your Excellency's instructions —

But so strongly was I pressed on the Subject, that I was reluctantly I confess persuaded to assent provided the responsibility of the measure should be divided by a request from the Corporation of New London & Brig^{dr} Gen^l Burbeck in behalf of the United States — This was done & I accordingly issued my orders to the 3^d & 8th Regiments forthwith to repair to New London & at the same time an order to the Commandant of the 3^d Reg^t of Cavary for the same number of men as directed by your Excellency's order of the 6th Inst^t — An attack is considered certain & probably within a very short period —

I have in my orders assured the Troops that they will be discharged when the expected attack is over or the present threatening appearances of danger vanish — Your Excellency will permit me to observe, that if any Troops are necessary we certainly need more than the four I have ordered —

Major Gen^l Williams was absent at this time or the orders would have emanated from him — I wait your Excellency's instructions as to this unexpected course —

I have the honour to be with the
highest respect & esteem

Your Excellency's Obed^t Serv^t

JIRAH ISHAM

Brig^r Gen^l 3^d Brigade

[Superscribed] His Excellency Gov^r SMITH Hartford or Sharon
Col^o Ward

[Endorsed] Brig. Gen^l Isham — 15. July 1813 —

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO JEREMIAH G. BRAINARD
AND LYMAN LAW

[3:63]

SHARON July 15th 1813

Gentlemen

The despatches herewith forwarded will shew that every thing in my power is attempted to remedy the evil which has grown out of the unfortunate orders from the war department — If the inhabitants of New London had intimated a desire that a portion of the new detachment should be suffered to continue on the march for their relief I would cheerfully have assumed the responsibility of complying with their request.

I should repair to N. London in person were it not that I have appointed to meet the council at Hartford on tuesday of the following week — I shall proceed to that place tomorrow for the purpose of concerting further measures for your safety —

In haste I am gentlemen respectfully
your very ob. ser^t

[on back] In confidence —

To prevent any unpleasant collision between B. Gen^l Burbeck & a brigadier gen^l of our own I have assigned the command of the troops now ordered out to Maj. Gen. Williams — Mention this confidentially to Gen. Isham if you judge best —

[Endorsed] To Hon^l Mess^{rs} Brainard & Law — 15. July 1813—

JIRAH ISHAM TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[3:64]

NEW LONDON July 16th 1813 —

His Excellency Gov^r Smith

Sir,

Previous to the receipt of Your Excellency's Letter of the 15th Ins^t I had ordered in from my Brigade two Regiments of Infantry & a small Detachment of Cavalry of which Troops I considered myself bound to take command as they were all from my Brigade, but in consequence of Your Excel-

PAPERS OF JOHN COTTON SMITH

lency's Letter I feel myself once more at liberty, unless some new instructions are given & it is with great pleasure that I find myself relieved from the service —

With the highest respect & esteem

Your Excellency's

Obed^t Serv^t

JIRAH ISHAM

[Superscribed] His Excellency Gov SMITH Hartford Col^o Ward

[Endorsed] Brig. Gen^l Isham — 16. July 1813 —

ABEL ROSSETER TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[3:65]

GUILFORD 16th July 1813

His Excellency John C. Smith Esq

Governor of the State of Connecticut

Sir on yesterday 1 72 gun ship 1 Frigate & 1 brig with their tenders appeared off the harbour and came to anchor and continued their during the night in the morning we were alarmed by the arrival of 3 barges as were supposed in the harbour I have thought it advisable to detach out of the Regiment under my command for the term of 4 days for the purpose of guarding the sea coast One Captain One Lieut. One Ens. Four Sergeants Four Corporals Two music & Forty Eight Privates — Provided they should continue off the harbour at the expiration of said 4 days I shall order a further detachment unless I should receive orders to the contrary from your Excellency I have the honor of Subscribing myself

Your Excellency,s Humble Servt.

ABEL ROSSETER

Lieut. Col. Comdt.

27th Regmt. Militia

[Superscribed] His Excellency JOHN C. SMITH Governor of Con.

Sharon Guilford July Paid 10

[Endorsed] Col. Rosseter calling out militia at Guilford —

Rec^d whilst absent at Hartford — Answ^d 30. July. 1813

WILLIAM WILLIAMS TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[3:66]

NEW LONDON 17 July ,1813

respected sir

Your fav^r of 15 Inst^t was last evening duly rec^d and I have agreeable to your Order taken the Command — Gen^l Isham in Consiquence of the urgent request of the Inhabitants of New London & Groton, connected with the solisitation of Brig^r Gen^l Burbeck had ordered out the 3^d & 8th Regiments — The annexed letter from Gen^l Burbeck gives his opinion of what force he thinks necessary for the present emergency, which agrees with the opinion of Com^r Decatur and my self, with the exception of a detachment of Cavalry, which I think from the extent of our lines, and the probability of their landing without the Harbour, will require 30 or 40 of that Corps, including officers — in case of an attack and the neighbouring Regiments being called in, there would be a considerable deficiency of Caterich Boxes, and Bayonet Belts, and should advise such a number being sent for this place as your Excellency may think best —

Cap^t Geo. Middleton of the Grenadier Company in the 21^t Regiment and 6 Brigade, expressed a wish that his company might be ordered in, from my personal knowledge of Cap^t Middleton and his company I am confident they would do honour to the State —

I have the honour to be

Very Resp^{ty} your

Obdt Serv^t

W^m WILLIAMS
Maj^r General
Commanding
at N London

His Excellency

JOHN COTTON SMITH Esq^r
Cap^t General

HENRY BURBECK TO WILLIAM WILLIAMS

[3:66]*

(Copy)

NEW LONDON July 16, 1813 —

Sir

From the recent communication from the War Department of an intended attack and destruction of the Frigates at this place, it is necessary for me to request that Six hundred Infantry and one Company of Artillery (exclusive of the Infantry & Artillery already ordered) be ordered out for the protection of the Forts and Harbour of New London —

I am Sir very

Resptfy your

ob^t Hb^l [missing]

(Signed) H. BURBEC[K]

Brig^r Gen^l Comdg

2 Mil^y Dist

Maj^r Gen^l WILLIAMS

New London

Conn^t —

[Superscribed] His Excellency JOHN COTTON SMITH Esq^r Cap^t
General of the State of Connecticut — Hartford P
Express — Public Service

[Endorsed] Gen^l Williams 17. July 1813 — rec^d 18. & answ^d —

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO WILLIAM WILLIAMS

[3:67]

HARTFORD 18. July 1813 —

Sir

Your letter of the 17th instant is received — Capt. Middleton's company tendered their services & were accepted as a part of the "military corps" — I have nevertheless at your desire enclosed an order for them to repair to N. London — As there is not time to issue the order thro' Col. Putnam I

*On inside sheet of the preceeding letter.

must content myself with giving notice to that officer of this arrangement —

The council will meet on tuesday. Immediately after they assemble I shall take their opinion and advice on the subject of providing an adequate stationary force at N. London. In the meantime you will consider yourself clothed with sufficient authority by my order of the 15th instant to call in a force suited to the emergency — I deeply lament the hardships which an untimely order from the war department has thus imposed upon the neighbouring militia — summon as small a number as the exigency will possibly admit and assure them they shall be relieved without the smallest unnecessary delay —

Until the meeting of the council & farther information from me it may not be adviseable to make any essential alterations in the quartermaster department or staff generally — You cannot however be too particular in directing that the utmost attention be paid to the muster-rolls —

We have no bayonet belts — Cartridge boxes will be forwarded — Your proposition respecting the number of cavalry will be submitted to the consideration of the council —

I am Sir respectfully your

very obedient servant

JOHN COTTON SMITH

Major General WILLIAMS —

[Endorsed] To Maj^r Gen^l Williams 18. July 1813 — Copy —

ORDER TO GEORGE MIDDLETON

[3:68]

HARTFORD 18. July 1813——

*To George Middleton Esquire captain of the 3rd company
second regiment of infantry in the military corps
of the State of Connecticut —
Sir*

In consequence of the urgent application of the principal inhabitants of the towns of New London & Groton I am com-

PAPERS OF JOHN COTTON SMITH

manded by His Excellency the Captain General to require that you march forthwith with your company duly equipt to the former place for the protection of the persons & property of our citizens —

You will report yourself immediately on your arrival to Major General Williams commanding officer of the militia at that post —

By order of the Captain Gen^l

J. TRUMBULL aid de camp

Copy

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO DANIEL PUTNAM

[3:68]*

HARTFORD July 18 1813

Dear Sir

I have found myself under the necessity of ordering the third & tenth companies in your regiment to march for N. London and report themselves to Major General Williams commanding the militia at that post. The order would have assuredly been issued through the commandant of the regiment if the pressing nature of the case would have admitted of the least delay.

I must content myself at present with barely giving you notice of this arrangement — at no distant day you will be informed of every circumstance connected with the late extraordinary proceedings of the war department

I am Dear Sir respectfully & sincerely your
very obedient servant

JOHN COTTON SMITH

Col. PUTNAM

[Endorsed] Order to Capt. Middleton of the State troops & letter to Col. Putnam — 18. July 1813 — Copy —

*On inside sheet of the preceeding letter.

GEORGE W. JEWETT TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[3:69]

NEW LONDON July 19th 1813

His Excellency John Cotton Smith Esq^r

Governor and Commander in Chief &

Sir In Obedience to your Excellency's Order of the 15th Instant, I yesterday Marched with my Company for this place and arrived here this forenoon.

By that order I am directed, on my arrival here to report myself to General Williams or Isham, whichever I should find in Command. I reported myself to him to the former officer agreeably to the Order At the Same time I feel it a duty which I owe to myself to State (and I do it with due deference and respect to your Excellency) that when I received my Commission of a Captain in the battalion of State Troops I had no Idea of accepting it on the footing of mere Militia — Having Served in that line and having obtained an honorable discharge I could not have consented to engage again in the Same capacity. — And as the Act for raising the State Corps, contemplates, and expressly provides that said Corps shall be commanded by its own Officers therein mentioned — Your Excellency will See that I could not have contemplated a Case, wherein I should be placed under the Command of a mere Militia Officer, however respectable or whatever his Rank — — These Ideas are suggested not from any disrespect to your Excellency, or to the officer commanding the Militia here — but from a Sense of duty to myself —

General Williams received me with every mark of Attention and Politeness — but I have not communicated these Ideas to him — because in the first place I wished to address them to your Excellency from whom I know they will receive all that attention which they merit.

I am Your Excellency's
Obedient Servant

GEO. W. JEWETT

[Superscribed] His Excellency JOHN COTTON SMITH Hartford
N. London C July 19 paid

[Endorsed] Capt. Geo. W. Jewett

REPRESENTATION FROM KILLINGWORTH

[3:70]

At a meeting of a large number of the Inhabitants of the first Society in Killingworth held at the Academy chamber on the 19th day of July 1813 to take into consideration the best means of defence to be adopted in defending our harbour and town against the Enemy & for the protection of our persons & property. Doct^r Austin Olcott chosen Chairman

John Stanton — Secretary

Resolved by this meeting that it is expedient to appoint two Delegates to wait on his Excellency the Governor of this State in the name & behalf of this meeting and that our S^d Delegates be directed to make a verbal representation to his Excellency of the measures that have been adopted by the Inhabitants of this town for defending the lives & property of its inhabitants and in protecting the navigation in our harbour since the Enemy have been in possession of the Sound And also to represent to his Excellency the several attacks that have been made on us by the Enemy and in a particular manner to represent the dangerous and exposed situation of our harbour & Town while the Enemies Ships remain in the Sound. Praying his Excellency to grant relief by stationing at this harbour such force as would be sufficient to guard the Town prevent sudden attacks & protect the Shipping in the harbour in case of immediate danger from the ravages of the enemy or in such other way grant relief as his Excellency may deem proper.

Amaziah Bray Cap^t of 2nd Com^p of Artillery &
Benjamin Hurd Cap^t of 3rd Com^p of 7th Reg^t were
Chosen Delegates agreeable to the foregoing resolve

The foregoing being a true Copy
of the records of S^d meeting

Attest JOHN STANTON Sec^{ty}

[Endorsed] Representation from Killingworth —

Opinion of the council that it is not expedient for the Governour to station a force at Killingworth — 21.

July 1813 —

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